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## SECOND REPORT OF THE LORDS' COMMITTEE ON THE SLAVE-TRADE.

The Select Committee of the House of Lords, appointed to consider the best means which Great Britain can adopt for the final extinction of the African slave-trade, have agreed to the following report:—

In following out the inquiry entrusted to them, as to the most effectual means for suppressing the African slave-trade, the Committee have felt it to be their duty, first, to examine the means hitherto employed for this end; to ascertain the amount of success which had attended their employment; whether they could be rendered more effectual, and if so, by what means; the objections urged against them; and whether any other means could be devised, either as substitutes for these, or as accessories to them.

The means which have been hitherto employed are—(1.) The formation of treaties with the various civilised States for the prohibition and suppression of the slave-trade, and the punishment of those engaged in it by confiscation of their ships. (2.) The formation of treaties with the chiefs of Africa, prohibiting the exportation of slaves from their territories. (3.) The maintenance of certain forts upon the African coast. (4.) The maintenance of armed cruisers on the coast of Africa to enforce these treaties.

As regards the first of these means, a large measure of success has attended the efforts of this country. At first, with the exception of the United States, she stood alone in denouncing the slave-trade as a crime; whilst every State possessing American colonies actually encouraged this iniquitous traffic; but gradually it has been renounced by all civilised countries; and the concurrence of the leading powers in the principles, and to a considerable extent in the measures, of England, has now been obtained. The slave-trade is now entirely limited to Brazil, and, in a very reduced degree, to the colonies of Spain, in which it is carried on in a reduced degree; both these powers being bound by treaties with England entirely to abolish the traffic, which is condemned by the laws of both as a great crime.

Thus, as to those nations by whom alone the slave-trade is now carried on, England possesses an unquestionable right to insist on its total cessation.

(2.) The treaties concluded with the native chiefs of Africa are of great value, from the power which they give us of enforcing their stipulations upon the slave-trader. Where they have been concluded, no question can be raised as to the lawfulness of the destruction of the goods stored in the barracoons for the prosecution of the trade—a course of action which (as the evidence of all competent witnesses proves) strikes the greatest blow at the trade; but a misconception with regard to the legality of destroying slave factories, which was not explained until the year 1848, prevented the execution of the treaties concluded previously with the native chiefs, so that the full efficacy of this means has not yet been practically experienced. These treaties are also of eminent service in directing the attention of the chiefs to the possibility of their obtaining by lawful commerce those European goods the desire of which alone leads them to maintain the slave-trade. Much has been done already to this effect.

(3.) Closely connected with this means of repression is the occupation of certain forts upon the coast of Africa. Of these, the principal is that of Cape Coast Castle. The effect of this fort is described by the witnesses as being very great along the coast on each side of it, and even far inland; so that the slave-trade is entirely suppressed over a district extending one hundred miles to the southward, and sixty to the north; while the total expense of

the whole Government of the Gold Coast is only £4000 a year. In the neighbourhood, moreover, of the Danish forts a similar good result has followed.

(4.) With respect to the effect of the squadron on the coast of Africa, it appears, in the first place, that all other means of direct repression, as well as all moral influences, which tend to the same result (such as the extension of Christianity and commerce, the return of liberated Africans and others to their native countries, &c.), depend on its maintenance; that, in proportion to its efficiency, these become more widely spread and more deeply rooted; but, if withdrawn, or materially reduced, that these secondary means could not continue to exist.

With regard to the actual and direct effect of the squadron in suppressing the slave-trade, it has been proved that when its operation began, the traffic extended over almost every part of Africa, from the Equator, as far as Cape Verde, a distance of nearly 2,500 miles. To this quarter, the efforts of the cruisers were entirely confined, from 1815 to 1839; the slave-trade south of the Equator, from which Brazil was almost altogether supplied, being prosecuted with perfect security, and, indeed, protection. Yet, within this time, the slave-trade has been expelled from every quarter north of the line, except from the Bight of Benin—a space of less than 300 miles. In the Bight of Biafra (in which 1,500 slaves per annum were recently exported from the river Bonny alone, while a large export also took place from the Old and the New Calabar, the Cameroons and other rivers), the slave-trade has been entirely extinguished. Complete treaties, enabling the British force to land and put it down if resumed, have been concluded; and a consul, resident at Fernando Po, periodically visiting these rivers, and assisted by an occasional visit from a vessel of war, will, it is expected, be able to secure their fulfilment.

In the place of the slave-trade a great and increasing commerce is springing up in this Bight. Mission stations have been established, and the comparatively small means which suffice to prevent the revival of the slave-trade, compared with those which were required to put it down, show that wherever the slave-trade has once been effectively suppressed, a large reduction of force may follow without danger of its revival.

On the Gold Coast the influence of the English forts has entirely eradicated the traffic.

At Cape Palmas to the northward, as far as Cape Mount, the settlements of Liberia have been equally efficacious to that end.

At Gallinas, under the treaty of 1840 (the operation of which was long suspended by a doubt as to the legality of destroying factories), the slave-trade has been recently entirely rooted out, mainly by the assistance of the surrounding natives. In this quarter a Government agent or consul on shore, aided by the presence of a single cruiser, will, there is reason to hope, prevent the slave-trade breaking out afresh; so that here, as well as in the Bight of Biafra, effectual repression may be followed by a great reduction of force.

Further north the natives themselves have risen against the traffic, requesting the captain of a cruiser to land and destroy the factories. A profitable trade has sprung up in its place, and the Sierra Leone Commissioners report that not a slave has been shipped for the preceding twelvemonth.

To the south of the Equator the continuance of the slave-trade is owing partly to the shorter period during which repressive measures have been tried; partly to the inadequacy of the force which has hitherto been employed in that quarter; and in some degree to the assistance derived from the occasional connivance of certain of



the colonies of Portugal. But there is no reason to doubt that an adequate force, employed on the best system, would soon reduce that traffic to a very small amount.

The general tenor of the evidence establishes in our minds beyond all doubt—(1.) That the English cruisers have greatly checked and crippled the slave-trade. (2.) That their removal would be the signal for its breaking out with unexampled vigour at every available port along the whole seaboard. (3.) That this would lead, amongst other results, to the whole coast swarming with piratical vessels, which would utterly destroy the legitimate trade, now daily increasing in value, between Great Britain and Africa; whilst all the beginnings of civilisation, and all the attempts to Christianise Africa, would be wholly defeated and destroyed. All the witnesses agree that the legitimate trade cannot co-exist with the slave-trade; and that its slower returns cannot compete in immediate apparent profit to the chiefs with the slave-trade; but that if the slave-trade be suppressed for any lengthened period, its revival would be prevented by the lawful trade.

Turning now to the suggestions which have been made by the Committee for rendering these means more effectual, they would call the attention of the House to the following, as most worthy of consideration:—

(1.) The habitual disregard of treaties on this subject with this country on the part of Brazil, and to a great extent also on the part of Spain, appears to be the main hindrance to the suppression of the trade; and to this, therefore, especially, the attention of her Majesty's Ministers and of Parliament should, in our opinion, be directed.

The suppression of the slave-trade can never be declared impossible to England, until she has at least attempted to oblige Brazil to fulfil her treaties.

A plan for obtaining greater practical efficiency for these treaties has been suggested, which will be found fully detailed in the evidence, and which the Committee consider worthy of the best consideration. Its main feature is the giving, by treaty, to mixed commission courts at Rio and the Havana, power to declare free all slaves brought before them, who shall have been imported after a day to be fixed. There appears to be in Cuba a large, and in Brazil an increasing, party, who might be expected to support this country in requiring and maintaining such a treaty.

It is also, in our judgment, worthy of consideration whether the three great maritime powers, France, the United States, and Great Britain, could not, at the present time be brought to combine in joint representations, and, if need be, active measures, for obtaining from Spain and Brazil an actual suppression of this traffic.

The admission of slave-grown sugar into the markets of Great Britain, which, in the judgment of all the witnesses, is a great and direct stimulus to the slave-trade, seems to require of Great Britain that she should use every effort in her power to prevent so great an evil accruing to Africa from her new commercial policy.

(2.) The Committee would recommend the consideration of the wisdom of extending further our force and settlements on the coast of Africa; of encouraging the free settlement of Liberia, which secures 350 miles of coast. The Committee have learned with satisfaction, that a treaty has already been entered into with Denmark, for the purpose of obtaining possession of the Danish settlements on the Gold Coast.

(3.) Of countenancing the settlement, on different parts of the coast of Africa, of free blacks from our own possessions.

(4.) Of establishing consular agents on the points of the coast where the slave-trade has been extinguished, and which are best fitted to become emporiums of trade.

This last recommendation leads them to another. The slave-trade cannot be permanently suppressed by any means which do not at the same time foster a lawful trade, by which the desires of the native chiefs for European goods can be supplied. To promote, therefore, this trade, should be one chief object of our exertions; it appears to be capable of almost unlimited increase. The present great hindrance to its extension is the existence of the slave-trade, which, wherever it continues, renders all security for life and property impossible in Africa; prevents the due cultivation of its most fertile soil, and the consequent increase of lawful commerce. Cotton, and almost all tropical productions, might, it appears, be largely produced in Africa, if this one master-impediment were removed; whilst the habits and inclinations of the Africans are such as would naturally incline them to become an eminently commercial people, and thus at once secure a supply of most

important productions for our own markets, and open an unlimited demand for our manufactures. Direct trading establishments should be encouraged, under the protection of every British fort on the coast of Africa. Various important suggestions bearing upon this point will be found in the evidence we have reported.

(5.) As the maintenance of the cruising squadron on the coast of Africa is, in our judgment, an essential condition towards the success of every other effort, we have paid especial attention to any suggestions made to us for increasing its efficiency, and we would especially report as worthy of attention those which follow.

The testimony of all witnesses goes to prove that the squadron has never been maintained in the efficiency needful for its full success; and hence the bravery and skill of our naval officers have been continually thwarted by the insufficiency of the means at their disposal.

The ships employed have been unfit and ill-equipped for that peculiar service. We would specially recommend that much smaller vessels, victualled on their stations by transports, should be substituted for those now in use. A large proportion of these should be screw steamers, which are peculiarly suited for this service, from their power of ordinary sailing, and of using their steam when extraordinary speed is required. Many of the captured slave vessels might, as has already been done in more than one instance, be fitted up, at a very slight cost, for use among our cruisers. By a judicious adoption of this recommendation, the efficiency of the squadron might, it appears, be doubled at no, or a very slight, additional expense.

The evidence we have taken would also prove that the efficiency of the squadron has been greatly injured by the frequent, though unavoidable, change of its commanding officers, rendering it of the first importance that special instructions, founded on the aggregate experience of all his predecessors, should supply the place of personal acquaintance with the service on the part of each new commodore. Hitherto, no uniform system of operations has ever been laid down to guide those who have assumed the command without any previous knowledge of that peculiar service. Thus, the best system has at no period been acted upon by the whole force employed; and the want of clearly defined objects, and consistency in the mode of action, combined with an insufficient numerical force, composed of vessels not suited to the service, fully accounts for the degree of failure we have encountered. It appears by the concurrent testimony of all the naval witnesses, with perhaps a single exception, that in-shore cruising, directed to prevent the shipment of slaves, is the most effective mode of employing the squadron. We would recommend that the commanding officers on this station should receive from the Admiralty such general instructions as would embody the experience of their predecessors in command.

It appears to us that the gallantry of our officers and men has been further impeded by uncertainty as to the extent of their powers, and the apprehension of exposing themselves to be harassed afterwards by legal proceedings. We would especially instance the proceedings instituted against the Hon. Captain Denman for burning the slave barracoons, and the stimulus afterwards given to the trade by the spread of an impression that such a course was illegal. On this head we would recommend—(1.) The giving to our officers more explicit instructions; and (2.) That any practicable legislative measures should be taken to secure them from such legal proceedings.

We would further recommend that a small force of screw steamers should be stationed on the coast of Brazil, to intercept any vessels which have escaped our cruisers on the coast of Africa.

The witnesses agree that nothing would more tend to suppress the slave-trade than to render all persons found on board slave-ships liable to punishment; and it was suggested to the Committee, by a witness of great authority, that the needful power might be obtained by merely passing an Act of Parliament to that effect, which should save the rights of other nations, by allowing them in all cases to claim their own subjects. The Committee would recommend the consideration of this suggestion.

We think it further worthy of consideration, whether it is not expedient to alter the system of fixing the amount of prize money by the number of the slaves on board the prizes which are captured by our cruisers, since the tendency of such a system must be to direct the chief attention of our naval officers to the intercepting vessels with slaves on board, rather than to prevent their embarking their cargoes, which is the great object. This, though perhaps inoperative, from the high feelings which animate our naval commanders,



is unjust, and opposed to the principles on which prize money is granted, and has exposed our navy to the most unfounded imputations.

We have taken evidence upon the chief objections urged against our present system, and especially against the maintenance of the squadron. These objections have been—1st, The assertion that the maintenance of the British cruisers enlist the national honour of Brazil against the suppression of the trade. From the best evidence we have been able to collect, we believe that this opinion is wholly unfounded, and that, on the contrary, the Anti-slavery party in Brazil, and a large and increasing party in Cuba, are unanimous in desiring the maintenance and success of our cruisers. The second objection we would notice is the assertion that an unrestricted slave-trade would soon extinguish itself, through the fears which would be excited in Brazil and Cuba by an unlimited importation of Africans. This opinion, so far as it applies to Brazil, the great market for slaves, appears to us to be wholly unsustained by the evidence we have taken. The vast tracts of virgin land as yet uncultivated in Brazil, allow of the scattering of an unlimited number of new hands, and it is only the combination of newly-imported Africans which is dreaded. The third objection to which we refer is the allegation that the existing squadron increases the sufferings of the transported African. Even if this had been established, we do not conceive that it would have been a sufficient reason for withdrawing the squadron, since the sufferings of the transported Africans, fearful as they are, is the least evil of a system which fills the populous continent of Africa with intestine war, insecurity, and bloodshed. But, further, we cannot conclude, from the evidence before us, that these sufferings are increased by the presence of the British squadron, when compared with the horrors of the middle passage, even under the regulated trade. The presence of the squadron has led to the employment of faster transports; it has greatly increased the value of the living cargoes; and the withdrawal of the cruisers would, in the judgment of some, even of the witnesses most favourable to such a course, lead to the employment of a worse class of vessels than those now used in the trade.

Finally, we would report, from a full examination of all the evidence brought before us, that in our opinion—

1. The past efficiency of the cruising squadron has been greatly undervalued.
2. That its cost has been much exaggerated.
3. That, with proper precautions, it is not an unhealthy service.
4. That to withdraw the cruisers in part, and to administer a regulated slave-trade (as has been suggested), would be impossible of execution, no material saving of the cost of the present system, and utterly at variance with every past profession of Great Britain on this subject, since she abolished the British slave-trade.
5. That against the present cost of the squadron should be set the advantage of nourishing and maintaining a valuable and increasing lawful trade, which must be utterly extirpated if the cruisers were withdrawn, and which might be developed to an unlimited extent if the slave-trade were suppressed.
6. That to abandon the suppression of the trade, to which, in the face of the whole civilised world, Great Britain is solemnly and repeatedly pledged, would be a fatal blow to her national honour.
7. That there is every reason to believe that the present system is susceptible of a large and immediate increase of efficiency by the adoption of such improvements as we have recommended; and that if these improvements be adopted, aided by the other measures recommended, there is reason to believe that this great object may be speedily and certainly obtained.

July 15, 1850.

BRAZILIAN SLAVE-TRADE.

The following extracts from the Consular reports of the extent of the African slave-trade with Brazil, addressed to Lord Palmerston, will show that it suffered no abatement during the year 1849, notwithstanding the vigorous efforts made to put it down by the squadron of cruisers employed on the coasts of Africa and Brazil for that purpose.

RIO DE JANEIRO.

ACTIVITY OF THE BRAZILIAN SLAVE-TRADE.

The correct number of departures from this harbour to Africa during the last year cannot be ascertained; for many vessels have cleared outwards with false destinations, while others have fitted

out and sailed from the various outports; and where not only every convenience is provided for the outfit of slave vessels, but also where barracoons, lighters, and large drogas, and all other requisites for the quick disembarkation of Africans, are known to exist. But the Brazilian return of arrivals from the coast of Africa is even more glaringly deceptive than that of departures; for it is notorious to every person and authority, that all the vessels mentioned in the enclosed list have brought slaves from thence, and that they have been landed at some of the small harbours to the northward and to the southward of Rio de Janeiro, being sixty-nine vessels,

With about . . . . .	40,980 slaves
Besides ten justly suspected of landing	
about . . . . .	5,000
	<u>45,980</u>

Long as this list of vessels is, it is more than probable that it does not still comprise the entire number, from the facility with which many can elude observation in these unfrequented places.

At the close of 1849, there were about thirty-two vessels known to be on their illegal voyages from this district to Africa for slaves; and eighteen lying in this harbour, also belonging to slave merchants, and either recently returned from Africa, or fitting out for that coast; besides which, there are many vessels employed in slave-trade between the outports and Africa that rarely appear in Rio Harbour. So many deceptions are successfully practised with the connivance of the Brazilian authorities, that it is not possible to arrive at a satisfactory estimate of the number of vessels now engaged in the slave-trade, and owned by persons resident here. For instance, it has been ascertained that the seven following vessels all proceeded from hence direct to Africa, though they cleared outwards and under the American flag, with which they arrived from the United States, as follows:—Last August, brig *Rio de Taldo*, for Rio Grande; bark *Hannibal*, for the River Plate; brig *Imogene*, for the River Plate; in September, brig *Snow*, for Pernambuco; October, schooner-brig *Caseo*, for the United States, with a cargo of slave provisions; schooner *Rival*, for Rio Grande; and without any publication of clearance, brig *Overman*.—*Lords' Report on the Slave-trade, 1850, Appendix, p. 234.*

CONNIVANCE OF THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT AND AUTHORITIES.

From this short exposition, the extent of the African slave-trade and the protection it receives from the Imperial Government are apparent. During the last few years those interested in this nefarious trade have so fully provided and organised the means of carrying it on in the neighbouring harbours and creeks, and have so fully secured the no less essential countenance and protection of nearly every Brazilian authority, from the highest to the lowest, that they continue their illegal operations undisguisedly, and quite undaunted by the general outcry now rising in many quarters against the wide-spread demoralisation and many other national evils inflicted by the illegal and injurious objects to which the slave-dealers, as a body, concentrate, without any check, all their energies and the influence of their wealth.—*Ibid. p. 235.*

INFLUENCE OF THE SLAVE DEALERS.

I enclose a list of persons residing in this capital, and who are said to be the principal slave-traders, and also another of those who reside at the outposts; besides these, a great portion of the Portuguese population is more or less engaged in the slave-trade; and the influence of such an active body long domiciliated in the country must be great, when backed as it is by the Government and most of the subordinate authorities, and also held up by the planters, whose property is gradually falling under mortgage for slaves they annually purchase, and whose political independence is also in a great measure curtailed, in the subservient and constrained position their obligations to the importers of slaves place them. With such commanding influence, it is not surprising that they are protected against all seizure of slaves, or any other of the punishments ordained by the unrepealed law of Brazil, against all imports of African slaves. Two vessels were, at the close of last year, captured in the act of landing slaves at one of the out-ports, or soon after the debarkation was effected, and undeniable evidence adduced, proving the illegality of their proceedings at a port where no Custom-house was established. Their names were *Tolerante* and *Antipatheco*. They were seized by a revenue vessel and



brought to this port, and legal proceedings instituted. But though the evidence was too strong against both vessels to allow a release, still the owner of the *Tolerante*, Manuel Pinto de Fonseca, was permitted to fit her out again for Africa, and she is now on her voyage thither. This vessel was the American brig *Flora*. The *Antipatheco* is, I am informed, also preparing for a similar return to her former employment; while the officer of the revenue vessel is suspended in his command, and now employed in a laborious and unhealthy office on the Custom-house wharf. This is, however, only one of the numerous instances which can be given to prove that the slave-trade merchants are openly allowed to infringe with perfect impunity every law and regulation opposed to slave-trade, or that may in any way frustrate their various illegal acts for obtaining the use of vessels under foreign flags. They have been most successful in thus prostituting to their nefarious purposes the American and Sardinian flags; but I do not think that they have invented any new device to attain that end.—*Ibid.* p. 235.

#### COMMERCIAL POWER OF THE SLAVE DEALERS.

The slave dealers have continued to reap full advantage from their commercial credit in purchasing merchandise and obtaining shipping; employing, subsequently, the latter piratically between the continents of Brazil and Africa, both as to voyage and the unlawful use of the flag.—*Ibid.* p. 235.

#### POLITICAL INFLUENCE.

They have also, as heretofore, leagued together, and devoted a portion of their great, though criminal profits, to the perverse purpose of facilitating a continuance of their outrages, by extending their political influence in Brazil.—*Ibid.* p. 235.

#### PRICE OF SLAVES IN BRAZIL.

The prices of newly imported Africans, during 1849, have fluctuated, having been about £32 10s.; £37 18s.; and £43 6s., at six and twelve months credit; and at present the price has increased to £54 per head, in consequence of late captures accruing on this coast. It is, however, requisite to explain that if, as it generally happens, the purchaser does not pay when the amount becomes due, he has to accept bills at a further credit, which bear an addition of the interest for the extended credit, at the rate of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 per cent. per month. As these bills are often renewed, with the addition of further interest incurred, some idea may be formed of the extravagant price for slave labour paid by planters, and of the process by which their estates become ultimately mortgaged to the slave merchants.—*Ibid.* p. 235.

#### CAPTURES BY BRITISH CRUISERS.

The number of captures on this coast by British cruisers, during the last year, or early in this, were six, namely, two with slaves, but only part of them were rescued, as both vessels were stranded by their crews; two on their voyage to Africa, or some place of outfit, one of which was the notorious steamer *Providencia*, alias *Paquete de Santos*, and one burnt, having previously landed her cargo of human beings.—*Ibid.* p. 234.

#### BAHIA.

##### EXTENT OF THE SLAVE-TRADE AT BAHIA.

It appears that eight to ten thousand is the average number of slaves annually imported and consumed in this province. But little fluctuation has taken place in their price during the last four years, which may be accounted for by the markets having been kept regularly supplied.

The carrying trade to the coast, all of which is connected with the slave-trade, is chiefly conducted through Sardinian and French vessels, these being considered by slave dealers as less liable to seizure. Brazilian vessels are employed almost exclusively in bringing the slaves to this market; they go hence to the coast in ballast, return in about 60 days, and report as having put back in distress, which glaring falsehood is readily connived at by the authorities.

#### CONNIVANCE OF THE AUTHORITIES.

Were further proof wanting to show that slave-trade is carried on here with the full knowledge and sanction of the authorities, the following would suffice:—On my representing to the President of this province that the landing and introducing into the midst of the dense population of this city eight to ten thousand slaves annually, many in a state of disease, might possibly account for the malignant fever at the present moment decimating the white inhabitants, secret orders were given for the immediate removal of the depôts of new blacks to the other side of the bay, although

the existing law in Brazil enacts that all new slaves be seized and forthwith emancipated.

A promise has lately been made to me by the President, that greater vigilance shall be exercised upon all vessels arriving from the coast of Africa, especially on those reported as having put back in distress; nevertheless, I am persuaded that, in the absence of positive orders from the central Government at Rio de Janeiro, no vigorous effort will be made here to stop, or even to impede, this detestable traffic.—*Ibid.* p. 169.

The information respecting the movements of the slave-trade at Pernambuco, Paraiba, Para, and Rio Grande do Sul, is exceedingly scanty; we cannot, therefore, say what number of slaves may have been introduced into these provinces during the year 1849.

#### SPANISH SLAVE-TRADE.

We have shown, in past numbers of the *Reporter*, that notwithstanding the apparent diminution of the Spanish branch of the African slave-trade, it was not extinct, and that it only waited a new impulse to break forth anew. We showed that one of the causes of the diminution of the traffic arose out of the destruction of the coffee plantations by successive hurricanes, and the transference of the slave population, to the extent of nearly 40,000, to the sugar estates. We showed also, that in consequence of the completion of the great public works in Cuba, that a large body of slaves were still at the disposal of the sugar planters, and consequently that until the internal supply of labour became exhausted, the foreign African slave-trade would not be carried on to any great extent. The following extracts from the latest official reports will show that the slave-trade with Cuba was greatly increased during the year 1849, and that there is every reason to believe it will still further be augmented during the current year.

#### INCREASE OF THE SPANISH AFRICAN SLAVE-TRADE.

I regret to have to state that the trade is certainly more vigorously prosecuted than it has been for some years past. In 1848 I could only estimate the arrivals to have been, as I believed, five vessels, and the slaves brought about 1,500 in number. In 1849, it is, I fear, beyond doubt, that at least 20 vessels have arrived with cargoes, which, according to the numbers reported of each, have brought 6,575 slaves. Adding one-third to these numbers for vessels that have come to distant parts of the island, information of which never reached us, I calculate the probable amount of importation to have been 8,700 slaves. These I have to state, on trustworthy information, were sold, the best lots of adults at as much as 28 doubloons, or 496 dollars per head, say £100 sterling; the inferior ones at 22 doubloons, or 394 dollars per head. Women and children at less, according to their respective values. Of children there has been a large proportion brought, which appears to me a proof of the low state of the market on the coast of Africa, as the dealers would not have brought them if they could have obtained others on the coast of a better quality.

#### YUCATANESE SLAVE-TRADE.

In addition to the 8,700 slaves estimated above, I think should be enumerated 330 Indians from Yucatan, by the steam-ship "Cetro," which is registered as the property of Don Antonio Juan Parejo, the person now considered most extensively engaged in slave-trading in this place. Those Indians were sold by the Yucatan Government to him, at 25 dollars per head, being prisoners taken in the miserable war going on in that country, and in which the American volunteers who entered that service, and for the most part left in disgust, declared that the atrocities committed on the Indians exceeded those of which the latter could be accused. At any rate the prisoners were sold, and brought here in chains, and are now worked in gangs exactly like other slaves, subject to the same treatment. It is true that there was a form of contract drawn out for hire, but this hypocritical proceeding was intended, I believe, more to meet foreign objections than their own scruples. The total number of persons, then, brought into slavery may be stated, in round numbers, to be 9,000 for the year.

I have been induced to dwell a little more on this new phase in the course of slave-trade, on account of the correspondence I felt it my duty to take on the first importations of those unfortunate people. And I wish to call your lordship's attention to my despatch, particularly of the 24th of March last, showing the connexion going on between that country and Senor Parejo, by means of his agents, to prosecute the slave-trade. In Sir Charles Hotham's evidence before the Committee of the House of Lords, in May, 1849, question 1711, it appears that two vessels had been lately captured



and condemned, which had Yucatan papers, and were intended for Havana. Those vessels had been, no doubt, with perhaps others, provided with those papers by Senor Parejo's agents in their several visits to Yucatan, and in their negotiations with that Government for the prisoners they brought.

#### SLAVE-TRADE BETWEEN CUBA AND BRAZIL.

Among the new devices is that of bringing slaves now from Brazil instead of from Africa. Of such cargoes there have been three, if not four, during the year; and I observe that Mr. Consul Cowper's attention has been drawn to the fact, as he refers to it in his letter to your lordship, dated Pernambuco, 10 July, 1848, though the number given him was palpably erroneous (twenty-one,) as that would not have paid the cost of bringing. The vessel being called the *Paquete de Trinidad*, shows the locality to which it came, and might have been one of those reported from Brazil in the beginning of the past year.

#### SUPPLY OF SLAVES EQUAL TO DEMAND IN CUBA.

From the geographical position of Brazil, it clearly appears that slave-trade may be much more easily carried on with that country than with Cuba. The distance is less, and the seas are smoother, so that smaller and worse vessels, with less hands, will suffice. Consequently, slaves may be sold at less price to the mines and plantations in Brazil than they can be in Cuba. But the voyage is long from Brazil to Cuba, averaging, say, fifty days, so that if the importers have to bring them with additional expenses entailed, their profits must be very much diminished in the present state of demand. I have already given the price at which the slaves have been sold the last year in lots; but I have the same authority for adding, that they have not met with a ready sale. They have been much hawked about in offers by the brokers. A great number have long remained on hand; and it is even said that the 174 latterly seized, and others previously, were the refuse of the importations which had not been taken off to the estates on which the better ones of the cargoes had been already placed. On this surmises are freely expressed, implicating the local authorities, and even the Government, which are of a character not to be unnoticed.

#### STILL FURTHER INCREASE OF SLAVE-TRADE ANTICIPATED.

Not only have the numbers brought the past year been so great, but I regret to have to state that they are expected in great numbers this year also.

So long as slavery is allowed by law, I cannot imagine, from the character of this people, that they will look to any other means of obtaining labour voluntarily. Whether obtained from Africa, from China, or Yucatan, they must have it as slave-labour; and they feel the advantage of having it so, that they can depend upon its continuance, not to have their crops lost by want of it at the necessary time.

#### SUGAR EXPORTED FROM CUBA IN 1849.

In the past year, the previous season having been an unfavourable one for the growth of the cane, the exports of sugar from this place and Matanzas only amounted to 850,348 boxes, against 1,000,341 in 1848, and 1,006,767 in 1847. The last season is considered to have been extremely favourable, and the exports are expected to amount to 1,250,000 boxes for the present year.

#### EXTENT OF SUGAR CULTIVATION IN CUBA.

The larger amount of exports is supposed to arise, however, from the greater quantity of land laid down in cane from the new estates which are coming into work over the years 1847 and 1848. As the slave-trade must be considered certainly in relation with the demand for slaves, so long as it is connived at or permitted by this Government, I conclude with the following statistical account of the island, lately published, formed upon the data of the census in 1846. Counting by the local measurement of caballerias, each of which is computed at thirty-three English acres and a half:—

There are in cultivation in the island	65,677 caballerias.
In natural pastures	99,612   "
In artificial pastures	17,404   "
In uncleared ground	409,826   "
Arid land	139,265   "
	<hr/>
	731,784   "

Sugar estates in the island were computed, in 1827, as being only 510 in number, and now 1,442. Coffee estates have been reduced from 2,064 to 1,760. Cattle farms, in 1826, were 3,098,

now 4,388. Other farms, in 1827, were 13,947, now reckoned to be 25,292. Tobacco farms, in 1827, were 5,534, now 9,102.—*Lords' Report on Slave-trade*, 1850, *Appendix*, pp. 149-152.

#### ACTIVITY OF THE SPANISH SLAVE-TRADE, 1850—CONNIVANCE OF THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT AND AUTHORITIES.

I regret to have to state that there are rumours of three cargoes of slaves having been brought to this island, and of three vessels having been despatched for slave-trade, since those I was able to refer to in my previous despatches. Respecting these I have not yet been able to learn any particulars, but will not fail to use my utmost endeavours for that purpose, in case the rumours prove at all correct, that the parties carrying on those proceedings do not pass unnoticed.—*Ibid.* p. 153.

Havana, 26th February, 1850.

I have the honour to report that I have not heard of any vessel having sailed hence to be engaged in slave-trade since my last month's despatch on the subject, though I have heard, from trustworthy information, that so many as fourteen have gone from different places this season, for the purpose of bringing slaves to this island. I regret I cannot learn any particulars of them; but I believe the system of bringing them from Brazil is now more thought of and practised than to bring them from Africa.

I learn that so many as 800 slaves were brought to the neighbourhood of Batabano, at the end of last month, for M. Forcade, and I suspect they came in the Brazilian ship *Tentativa*, which entered here on the 4th instant, openly consigned to him. This vessel came ostensibly with a cargo of jerked beef, but so disproportionately small for her size as to convince me of the truth of the surmise, though I have not sufficient authority to act upon it. M. Forcade is expecting 1,000 more. The *Tentativa* is said to have brought a large cargo of slaves from Africa to Brazil on her last voyage previously.

I understood that several thousands, as many as 8,000, slaves have been landed lately on the south side of the island, principally in the neighbourhood of Santiago de Cuba. Should these reports be true, her Majesty's Consul there may have informed your lordship of them more fully. It is said, also, that several vessels are missing, which are therefore supposed to have been captured. I fear that another report is true, that the Spanish Government have granted the slave-traders permission to introduce 40,000 slaves into the island, and that the Captain-General has been instructed to connive at the introduction, allowing him to take the payment of three doubloons, or about £10 per head, for so doing. It is said that this is with the consent of the British Government also, which I only repeat to show how openly the trade is carried on, because people think it could not be so without British permission also. A large number of Bozals are offered about now in the markets, and a respectable American settler has had the warranty given him that a lot of twenty-five he was buying should have permits from the Captain-General to be taken to wherever they might be wanted, without any hindrance or loss. This seems to countenance the reports I before referred to.—*Ibid.* p. 154.

Havana, 27th March, 1850.

I have the honour to report that I have not heard of any vessel having sailed hence to be engaged in slave-trade since my last month's despatches on the subject; neither have I any distinct information of any one having arrived with slaves lately, though I have heard a rumour to that effect. The more trustworthy communication made to me is, on the other hand, that three have been due more than two months, so that fears are entertained by their owners of their having been captured. Meanwhile there is a demand arising for slaves for the coffee plantations, which are now again attended to on account of the higher price for that article. I fear, therefore, that the trade will continue to be attempted on the strength of expected profits accordingly.—*Ibid.* p. 154.

#### THE LATE INVASION OF CUBA—MEMORIAL TO THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT ON THE SLAVE-TRADE, &c.

The Anti-slavery Committee have felt it to be their duty, in view of recent events connected with the island of Cuba, to memorialise the Spanish Government, and to urge certain considerations upon them, which they judge to be of the highest importance in connexion therewith. The following is a copy of the document referred to:—



TO THE GENERAL NARVAEZ, DUKE OF VALENTIA, &c. &c. &c.,  
PRIME MINISTER OF THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT.

SIR,—The recent piratical incursion of a band of freebooters from America, headed by General Lopez, into the island of Cuba, with a view of wresting it from the Government of Spain, and of securing its annexation to the United States, has occupied the serious attention of the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society; and they beg, respectfully, to lay the result of their considerations before you.

The Committee have long been aware of the nefarious scheme which has recently been attempted to be carried into effect by General Lopez; and have, from time to time, called public attention to it in the columns of their official organ, the *Anti-slavery Reporter*. They knew that a large body of the southern slaveholders were in favour of the annexation of Cuba to the United States by purchase, if that could be accomplished, if not, by less honourable means. The motives which appear to have influenced them, in their insatiate desire of obtaining so rich a prize, have been, first, to secure the continued predominance of the southern party and policy in the government and legislature of the country, now so terribly shaken by the increasing number of free States and free men; and, secondly, to open a new market for the sale of the surplus slaves of the older slave States, and, not improbably, for draining off from the Continent the free people of colour, who have been so long and so cruelly oppressed in that country. But the wishes of the southern party are participated by some unprincipled men, engaged in mercantile transactions, at the north. The possession of Cuba, no matter how obtained, is, commercially speaking, regarded by them as of first-rate importance. The market it would open to them, and the supplies they could so readily obtain from it, is what they earnestly covet. Besides which, there is a class of American statesmen who are extremely anxious to obtain political as well as commercial preponderance in the Gulf of Mexico, as well as on the Continent, and they would, on that ground, look upon the acquisition of Cuba by the United States, with the highest satisfaction. The Committee are, therefore, satisfied that, whatever show of vigour the Federal Government may exhibit at the present moment, in repressing the tendency to invade Cuba, and to punish the leader of the late expedition, they possess no real power to prevent it, when once public opinion shall have been declared in favour of it. The power possessed by the Federal Government over the several sovereign States is extremely feeble; and can only be exercised within very strict limits, and in accordance with public will.

Entertaining these views, the Committee are persuaded that if Cuba is to be preserved to the Crown of Spain, its preservation must depend upon the measures which an enlightened and humane policy shall dictate at Madrid. It would be unbecoming in the Committee either to reiterate or to discuss the several charges brought against the Government of Spain, and which, it is said, have created not merely dissatisfaction in Cuba, but disaffection among its people.

The Committee, therefore, leave that question wholly in your hands, and those of your colleagues, with the expression of their sincere desire that the Government, of which you are the head, may devise and carry into effect such generous and just measures as shall content the people of Cuba, and make them as loyal from interest, as you would wish them to be from affection. But, Sir, there is one great measure in which the people of this country take a deep and permanent interest, and which, in accordance with the rights acquired by solemn treaties, they feel they may properly press upon your attention; and that is, the suppression of the African slave-trade, and the liberation from slavery of all the victims of that inhuman traffic, with their descendants, who for so many years past have been illegally imported into Cuba; and whose right to freedom is, under Spanish as well as international law, unquestionable. These unhappy persons form the bulk of the present slave-population of the island; and to declare their freedom would not only be an act of high justice—already too long delayed—on the part of the Spanish Government, but would vindicate Spanish law and Spanish honour from the deep stain that now rests upon them; and turn a fearful element of disorganisation and weakness into one of real security and strength. An emancipated population, protected by just and wise laws, would be a potent auxiliary against treason in Cuba, and conspiracy without.

The Society which the Committee represent, desire to see the abolition of slavery effected by those means which are of a moral, religious, and pacific character, and by those means only. They

are opposed to all violent means for the accomplishment of the righteous objects at which they aim. But they cannot withhold from themselves the fact, that wherever slavery exists, it violates the laws of God, and abrogates the fundamental rights of human nature; that it is and must ever be associated with atrocious acts of cruelty, and with the mental and moral degradation of its unhappy victims; and that unless it be peacefully terminated, it can have but one issue—and that is, insurrection, devastation, and blood. To avert so great a calamity, to advance the true prosperity of Cuba, to perform a great act of national justice, and to remove a fertile cause of irritation between Great Britain and Spain—and which may, if prolonged, ripen into hostility—is now in your power; and the Committee would cherish the hope that, in view of the great interests of humanity, of civilisation and religion, you, Sir, and your colleagues, may be moved to effect the complete abolition of slavery, and by this means become a benefactor of your race, and advance the real dignity, the honour, and the prosperity of your country.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

(On behalf of the Committee,)

Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

JOHN SCOBLE, Secretary.

Anti-slavery Office, 27, New Broad-street,  
London, 30th July, 1850.

#### FREE-LABOUR PRODUCE—REPORT OF THE NEW YORK ASSOCIATION.

The Report of the Board of Managers of the Free-produce Association of New York has reached us, and though it breathes somewhat of discouragement at the want of an extensive interest in its proceedings, it is satisfactory to know that there are workers in this good cause on both sides of the Atlantic. We tender them our sympathy, and reciprocate their support. The following extract from their Report will be read with interest:—

“Could we show, in true colours, the affliction to which the slave is subjected, from the dismemberment of families,—could we be brought to see husbands and wives torn from each other and consigned to distant sections, never again to meet, and children forcibly taken from their parents, and delivered to the ruthless slave-trader; most of all, could we see their daughters, in the blooming stage of womanhood, with rude hands seized and borne away, under circumstances and for purposes which, to a mother's eye, need not a written description; with such a picture before them, would parents suppose, looking around upon the smiling faces of their own happy family, that the subject is not deserving the attention that is asked for? The managers will not believe that it can be so. Let us then cordially unite in the promotion of the cause of freedom, by the disuse of the proceeds of the labour of slaves, by the encouragement of free labour in its stead, and by steadily purchasing the articles produced by it; thereby creating a sure and lively demand for them.

“England is now beginning to call for free-labour produce. Societies have been formed and addresses circulated, and a depôt has been established at Manchester, where application is made from all parts of the kingdom for such articles as are needed, and where a supply is kept of such as have already been obtained. But England looks to us for the raw material for her cotton goods, and the friends of the cause there are loudly calling upon the Associations of New York and Philadelphia to send our free-labour cotton to them. In different sections of the Southern States there are many plantations worked by free labour, while in some districts, this description of labour is a large proportion of the whole, and thousands of bales are now within our reach, cultivated by freemen in the midst of slavery. Shall we not strengthen the hands of these by preferring the products of their labour; and shall we not co-operate with our brethren in England, by enabling them to avoid a participation in the guilt of slavery? Many of these free-labour planters decline holding slaves from principle, and it appears to us very important that such should find a ready market for their cotton, and a preference extended to it. Even a thousand bales thus extracted from the slave region, could not fail to have a most salutary influence; nor would a very great fund be necessary to accomplish this object. Parties may be found to procure and forward this cotton, provided they are guaranteed against loss through the fluctuations of the market, and this the Associations of Philadelphia and New York should have the means to do. Shall then any exertion be wanting on our part to gather the fruits thus ready to fall into our hands? The introduction of free labour in this way, in the midst of the slaveholding territory, is a circumstance that cannot fail to be particularly cheering to the advocates of freedom. It appears like the germ of an establishment, which, if it can be cherished, may in due time expand, so as to effect, what the legislative power so imperiously denies—the exter-





mination of the cruel and blighting 'Institution' of the South. Could this be accomplished through the instrumentality of a measure so gentle in its operation, with what gratitude should the event be hailed by every friend and lover of his kind!

"The past winter has been a time of peculiar excitement on the subject of slavery. In the beginning, the politicians of the North had ventured to speak forth honestly its sentiments, and, as a consequence, it appeared that the institution was being shaken to its very centre. But now, a melancholy example is afforded of the benumbing influence of our 'commercial' union. The Southern planters have raised the cry of 'disunion,—disunion;—our merchants, like Demetrius of old, have feared that their crafts were in danger, and now have joined with their political leaders in submissive obedience to the dictates of slavery. While we mourn such a spectacle as is here presented, we cannot fail to be strengthened by it in the ground we have taken, and though our calling does not appear to be in the jar of politics, and the strife of party, we trust, while the 'potsherds of the earth' are striving thus with each other in vain, that we, by the silent influence of non-participation in our brothers' sins, may remove, link by link, the chains from off the slave, until the unfettered praises of three millions of these, united with our own, may ascend unto their Father and our Father, unto their God and our God."

The public meeting of this useful auxiliary to the anti-slavery cause was largely attended, and a lively interest was manifested in the promotion of the objects of the Association. All doubts seem to have passed away of the obligation resting upon those who regard slavery as sinful, to avoid the purchase and consumption of its fruits.

In connection with this subject, we have the pleasure to announce that Mr. Henry Garnet, who has been advocating the free-trade movement in the United States, has arrived in this country, to pursue the same class of labour here. Mr. Garnet is of African origin, a fugitive from slavery, and an able and respected minister of the Gospel. On his return from the Peace Congress at Frankfurt it is expected he will, under the sanction of some leading abolitionists of this country, lecture, wherever an opportunity may be afforded him. We cordially wish him success.

#### ILLUSTRATIONS OF AMERICAN SLAVERY.

##### AN EXCITING SLAVE CASE.

Washington, August 7.

The runaway slaves have been so numerous of late, in these parts, under the instigation of the abolitionists here and elsewhere, that the owners of this species of property have become very much alarmed, and hence are disposed to remove them to safer parts of the United States, or to sell them to slave traders. A cruel incident of this kind is exciting great sympathy here at present. The family of William Williams, the coachman of Presidents Polk, Taylor and Fillmore, were suddenly, on Friday morning, seized by a slave trader, and taken from their homes in this country, off to Baltimore, to be sent to New Orleans. His wife, over fifty years of age, three daughters, and three grandchildren, were thus snatched from him in an hour, to a fate worse to him than death; to be sold South to the highest bidder, and separated from him and each other. The poor man wrung his hands, rolled on the ground,—was nearly crazed in fact by the dreadful parting. After many years' toil, he very recently purchased his own freedom, but his family were owned by some one in New Orleans.

The President, feeling deeply for his distress, gave him money, and let him go to Baltimore to see them again. Williams found the trader would take the sum of 3,200 dollars for them, and returned with the hope of raising that amount here, to redeem them. A petition was drawn up, and to-day circulated about the city and House of Representatives, setting forth the fact, and asking for assistance, which was so promptly rendered, that the prospect is, in the language of Williams himself, "very fair."

The President, Mr. Webster, Gen. Scott, and a number of senators, members, and citizens, have contributed sums from five to fifty dollars. Mr. Corcoran gave 200 dollars, which was the price asked for the aged wife, and he made her "free" at once. Besides doing this, Mr. Corcoran has purchased one of the women, who has lived in his family for some years; Mrs. Com. Patterson, another; and Mrs. Gen. Towson, a third, who lived with her some years past. So the children, for whom 1,500 dollars were asked, only remain to be purchased by their grandfather, and he is in a fair way of raising this money.

##### REMARKABLE ESCAPE OF A SLAVE.

We understand a vessel has arrived here from Washington, N. C., bringing a yellow girl belonging to George W. Davis, of that city.

She was secreted on board by the mate. A bed was thrown into the hold for her to lie upon, and concealed by piling wood around it. The authorities at Wilmington, almost knowing her to be on board, made repeated searches, and smoked the vessel several times, after loudly announcing that they would smother her if she did not show herself. Upon coming out of the river, the vessel was boarded by the posse for the last time, and had the girl been found, the captain would have been in great peril, notwithstanding he knew nothing of the runaway. During the voyage the girl was fed in the watches, without the knowledge of the master. At the wharf here the vessel was entrusted to the care of the second mate; but in the evening the first mate went aboard, and persuaded the second mate to go on shore upon an errand. He returned, however, so quickly, that the mate had not time to get off with his prize, but hid her in another place, where she was discovered by the steward. He told the two mates, who were then conversing in the cabin, that there was a woman on board; but the first mate laughed at the story. Soon after, the second mate went into his own room, when the mate took the girl from her concealment, and run with her rapidly up the wharf.—*Boston Post*.

##### THE MISSOURI STAMPEDE.

We published lately a brief account of the attempt of a few slaves in Missouri to regain their liberty, and their capture. The details, as since published, furnish a revolting view of the terrible evils of that system. The following are the principal facts of the case:—

"The pursuers (white), numbering about thirty guns, soon came up. The negroes, amounting to between twenty and thirty, halted. They had three guns, together with clubs and butcher knives. As soon as they had halted, they made their dispositions for an obstinate defence. Their pursuers marched towards them in regular order, with presented guns. When near enough, they asked them to surrender. They refused. They drew nearer and nearer, parleying and insisting on a surrender—the negroes, still manifesting the most dogged and settled hostility, peremptorily refused to yield. Finally, after waiting and reasoning the case with them, without the least apparent effect, and until all patience was exhausted, they commenced closing upon the negroes. One of them, a desperate fellow, named John, was shot. Undismayed by the occurrence, the other negroes still maintained the same hostile attitude. Five minutes were given to them to consider of their surrender. The women first gave up, and implored the men to do so likewise, as John was already dead. Before the end of the time the men yielded; gave up their weapons, were bound, and brought to Canton. The leaders have been shipped to St. Louis and sold."

##### ATTEMPT TO RESCUE SLAVES—GREAT EXCITEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR RECAPTURE.

A singular affair which has taken place at Washington has produced there the most intense excitement. It seems that the police have long suspected Mr. L. Chaplin, of Albany, a respectable gentleman, aged about fifty, and well known as an abolitionist, and as the editor of "Chaplin's Portfolio and Abolition Paper," as being concerned in favouring the escape of slaves to the free States. On Thursday morning he paid his bill at the hotel in Washington, where he had been staying, and left in his carriage, driven by a free black of that city. The police, who watched his movements, ascertained he had not left the city, and prepared to intercept him on the northward road. In the evening he took in three runaway slaves, belonging to Messrs. Toombs and Stephens, of Georgia. The negroes had been for some days in the city, waiting a chance to escape. When the carriage arrived in Sprattsburg, a town of Maryland, some seven or eight miles from Washington, the officers suddenly appeared, seized the horses' heads, and thrust a rail through the forewheels, thus stopping all advance. Chaplin seeing that they were taken, called on the negroes to defend themselves, and a desperate fight took place, though the darkness of the night prevented the shots fired from being fatal. As it was, several wounds were given and received on both sides; and it is admitted that the fugitives fought bravely. They were armed with revolvers and bowie-knives. Chaplin was first mastered, some five or six men flinging themselves on him as he leaped from the carriage. One of the negroes escaped, but being hurt, has since given himself up. Chaplin is in prison at Washington, and will be given up to the authorities of Maryland for trial. His punishment will be severe, as the court will act under the idea of stopping all such aid to fugitive slaves, which is thought to be more frequent than it really is. He says that he is truly sorry that he did not succeed.



### The Anti-Slavery Reporter.

LONDON, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER the 2nd, 1850.

The Second Report of the Lords' Committee appointed to inquire into the most effectual means of suppressing the slave-trade has been laid before Parliament. It adds little or nothing to the stock of evidence previously made public, and does not advance a single step towards the effective solution of the great question submitted to their consideration. They are, however, of opinion, that "the maintenance of the cruising squadron on the coast of Africa is an essential condition towards the success of every other effort;" and, consequently, their "especial attention" has been directed to the suggestions made to them "for increasing its efficiency." Our own opinions have been so frequently stated on the inefficiency of the squadron, as a means for suppressing the slave-trade, that we do not wonder that the Lords should have devoted their attention to find out the cause of its past want of success. They have discovered that "the ships employed have been unfit and ill-equipped for that peculiar service;" "that the efficiency of the squadron has been greatly injured by the frequent though unavoidable change of its commanding officers;" and "that the gallantry of our officers and men have been further impeded by uncertainty as to the extent of their powers, and the apprehension of exposing themselves to be harassed afterwards by legal proceedings." Now, if these several points can be truly made out, how severe a reflection does it cast upon the Government, especially the Admiralty, in squandering the public money on unsuitable and ill-appointed vessels, and in not arming their commanders with sufficient powers to accomplish their object. No doubt the parties implicated by the Lords' Report will either vindicate themselves from the serious charges laid at their door, or admit their truthfulness, and bear the responsibility. Of course, so far as the question is a professional one, we do not presume to give an opinion; but, whatever may have been the causes of failure—whether they have been accidental to the system of suppression, or formed a necessary part of it—we have been all along justified in stating the fact of its failure, and in directing public attention to a more efficient way of grappling with the giant iniquity. The mode of suppressing the slave-trade suggested by the Anti-slavery Committee is thus referred to in the Lords' Report:—"The suppression of the slave-trade can never be declared impossible to England, until she has at least attempted to oblige Brazil to fulfil her treaties. A plan for obtaining greater practical efficiency for these treaties has been suggested, which will be found fully detailed in the evidence, and which the Committee consider worthy of the best consideration. Its main feature is the giving, by treaty, to Mixed Commission Courts at Rio and Havana, power to declare free all slaves brought before them, who shall have been imported after a day to be fixed." That day we consider already fixed by treaty, namely, from the period in which it has been illegal, both in Brazil and the Spanish colonies, to import slaves. The right of Great Britain to demand the freedom of all Africans who have been so imported, is undoubted; and we know, both from the testimony of Lord Palmerston and Dr. Lushington, sustained by the evidence of our Consular Agents and other British functionaries residing in those countries, that if the treaties were properly enforced in this direction, not only the slave-trade, but slavery itself, would disappear; and, of course, the squadron no longer be required for its suppression. Why does not the British Government press this point upon Brazil and Spain? Why send British cruisers over half the world in quest of slavers, at an enormous cost, when by a single well-directed effort the end may be effectually attained? There is no question of right to be decided—all that is wanted is the will.

We know not what measures may have been adopted by the Government, during the last two years, to give increased efficiency to the cruising system; but if we may judge from results, we must arrive at a vastly different conclusion to that announced in the Lords' Report. They say, "The general tenor of the evidence establishes in our minds, beyond all doubt, that the English cruisers have greatly checked and crippled the slave-trade." Let us see. The convention between this country and France, which provided that each power should place a squadron of not less than 26 vessels each on the coast of Africa, for the suppression of the slave-trade, was in full operation in 1846. The British squadron included eight steamers, and we believe that no one will contest the fact, that the period of its greatest efficiency must be reckoned

from that time. Now, on consulting the returns laid before Parliament, we find that the imports of slaves into Brazil and the Spanish colonies, in 1840, was 44,470; in 1841, 27,851; in 1842, 17,350; in 1843, 38,500; in 1844, 36,000; and in 1845, 21,050; but in 1846, notwithstanding the increased force and activity of the squadron, owing to the stimulus given to the slave-trade by our new fiscal arrangements, we find the number of slaves imported into these countries was 54,300; in 1847, 59,300; in 1848, from 60,000 to 70,000; and in 1849, upwards of 65,000. To say, with such facts as these staring one in the face, that "the English cruisers have greatly checked and crippled the slave-trade," appears to us absurd. The fact is, the movements of the traffic are regulated, not by our efforts to put it down by the cruisers, but mainly by the demand for the products of slave labour in the markets of Europe," and by "the very large profit" which the traffic secures. To disguise the facts of the case can answer only one end—that of prolonging fruitless efforts, and preventing the application of plans which, if prosecuted with the vigour their importance demands, must ensure success.

In reference to the admission of slave-grown sugars into the British markets, and the increase in the slave-trade which has followed that fatal measure, the Lords' Report deals very gently. They say, "The admission of slave-grown sugar into the markets of Great Britain, which, in the judgment of all the witnesses, is a great and direct stimulus to the slave-trade, seems to require of Great Britain that she should use every effort in her power to prevent so great an evil occurring to Africa from her new commercial policy." One would have expected that the discovery of this fact would, at once, have led the Lords' Committee to suggest the repeal of a law which had been attended with such disastrous consequences. Looking at the bad faith of the Spanish and Brazilian Governments—the disrespect with which they have been allowed to treat all our remonstrances and protests, until it has become a habit to do so—and the folly of looking to them any longer for the honourable fulfilment of their treaties, nothing would have been more natural than the recommendation of shutting out their produce from our markets, until they had learned to be humane and just. Why this was not done we can only surmise. At all events, we are constrained to say, that, as we had no confidence in the intentions of those who originated the inquiry into the means of suppressing the slave-trade, in the House of Commons, believing their aim to be to find cogent reasons for withdrawing the cruisers without providing an efficient substitute; so neither have we confidence in the intentions of those who originated the inquiry in the Lords, believing their object to have been to find equally strong reasons for continuing the squadron, without, at the same time, recommending any bold and practical measure by which the slave-trade might be completely abolished. The Reports of the two Committees are totally opposed to each other in their conclusions. We must be excused if, whilst we accept the facts they contain, we refuse to adopt either the reasonings or opinions set forth in the one or the other. We are persuaded that the Brazilian and Spanish African slave-trade can be wholly extinguished, if the Parliament of these realms and Government so will it, in a way perfectly consistent with justice, humanity, and law, and that, if it be not done, the responsibility lies at their doors.

The celebrated Compromise Bill of Mr. Clay, which has given rise to such lengthened and animated debates in the Senate of the United States, has been defeated. It has literally been torn to pieces, and all that remains of this specimen of his statesmanship are the sections providing a territorial government for Utah, or Deseret, the famous settlement of the Mormons. Subsequently, it appears that California, with its original boundaries and free constitution, has been admitted as a State into the Federal Union by the Senate, the majority in its favour being 36 to 19. The Texas portion of Mr. Clay's "Omnibus Bill" has been altered in favour of Texas. By the new arrangement, she will be entitled to an immense portion of New Mexico, estimated at 100,000 square miles of territory, and ten millions of dollars, though in strict equity she is entitled neither to the one nor the other. Whether the House of Representatives will sanction this Bill remains to be seen, but we fear the bribe which it evidently contains will prove too strong for the easy virtue of many of the Northern men. Should it pass, it will prove another monument of iniquity raised by the American Legislature, scarcely inferior in turpitude to the original admission of Texas into the Union, and the atrocious war to which



it gave rise. We do hope, however, that every free-soiler and man of principle will resist it in every shape which the forms of the House permit.

The Ultra-Southern section in the House of Representatives have held a caucus, and have determined to resist the introduction of California as a State, or to give a Territorial Government to New Mexico, unless the House consents to run a line parallel to 36° 30', in continuation of the Missouri compromise, direct to the Pacific, and to consecrate all the soil, south of that line, to slavery. It is, therefore, probable that California may not yet come into the Union as a State, that the Texas Bill may be defeated, and that New Mexico may be deprived of a Government.

In the meantime we learn that the Governor of Texas, Mr. F. H. Bell, has issued a manifesto, in which he claims for that State "the Rio Grande to its whole extent, as her rightful boundary;" and announces the intention of the State, by force of arms, to compel New Mexico to submit to her jurisdiction. Bodies of armed men, who dwell in that "valley of rascals," the very refuse of society and civilisation, are offering their services, and forces are being organised for this marauding expedition; but a counter-declaration has been issued by the Government at Washington, of their determination to maintain the rights acquired over New Mexico by the treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo, until Congress shall have settled the boundary between it and Texas by a legislative act. Whether this declaration may influence the decisions of Texas remains to be seen. One thing is now clear, that, until the question of slavery be settled by its abolition, there will be no peace in the United States.

Towards the close of the late session of Parliament, Lord Stanley in the House of Lords, and Mr. Augustus Stafford in the House of Commons, presented petitions from the planters, merchants, proprietors, and other inhabitants of Mauritius, imploring protection to the industry of the island sufficient to enable them to continue the cultivation of the soil. These petitions were respectively signed by six hundred and ninety-nine persons, English and French, and were said to represent the sentiments of the whole community. The pleas for protection put forward by the Mauritius petitioners are as follow:—They state that sugar is the sole produce exported from their island; that the very existence of Mauritius depends upon the manufacture of that article, inasmuch as the hurricanes, with which the country is frequently visited, entirely destroy plantations of coffee, cotton, and indigo; and that, for years past, relying upon the faith of measures adopted, and of pledges repeatedly given by the British Government, the planters have invested their capital and used their best exertions, in order to turn their only branch of industry to good account; they remind the British Parliament that they received, at the time of slave emancipation, a most inadequate compensation for the property they resigned, upon the distinct understanding that for the time to come the British market should be secured to British colonists from the competition of foreign slave colonies; they state, that during the last sixteen years, in conformity with the views and wishes of the British nation, they have done their utmost to solve the great question of free as compared with slave labour, and in the prosecution of the experiment have introduced into the island no fewer than 145,000 free labourers, at the enormous expense of £1,250,000; and that, notwithstanding their efforts to meet the requirements, in this respect, of the mother country, they have been doomed to utter failure, since actual experience during the time specified enables them conscientiously to declare, that as far as their colony is concerned, free labour yields considerably less, and is much more expensive than the labour of the slave. They, therefore, ask for protection, not for themselves, but that the slave owner may not, by British legislation, be fostered to the destruction of the British colonist.

We cannot admit the plea for protection; and think that the colonists would further their objects, in a more legitimate way, if they would unanimously urge upon the British Government the duty of demanding from Spain and Brazil the exact fulfilment of the treaties for the suppression of the slave-trade; and, until that be secured, the exclusion of their produce from the British markets. We admit that a great wrong was inflicted on the British colonies by the Sugar Act of 1846, but a greater wrong still on the interests of justice and humanity; and although all the evils anticipated from that Act have not been realised, in consequence of the remedial legislation of 1848, yet, as we are now under a descending scale of differential duties, and that they will be equalised, so as to admit slave-grown and free-grown sugars into the home market on equal terms, in 1854, we feel that a great effort must be made to prevent the results that may follow. Slavery and the slave-trade must be crushed both in Cuba and Brazil; and the British Government have the power to do both, if properly sustained by the people of England and the inhabitants of the British colonies. There must, however, be unity of action, and that can only be secured by the adoption of a common principle.

We cannot but regret that the Mauritian planters should call up painful memories by speaking of "the most inadequate compensation" they received "for the property they resigned," when

they know that, with here and there an exception, they had no valid legal title to the people they unjustly held in slavery; but we will pursue this subject no further, as we have no wish to perpetuate antagonisms where union should exist. It affords us pleasure to notice in the Mauritius petitions that the justice and humanity of emancipation are fully acknowledged. The petitioners say, "We fully concur in the justice and humanity of the emancipation of the slaves in the British colonies; but we are bound respectfully to represent that, after this great and glorious measure, there does exist an absolute necessity for protecting British free labour against slave owners. Now, on the contrary, open protection seems to be afforded by the British Government to those foreign colonists who, in defiance of both Divine and human laws, are daily supplying themselves with cheap labour, by a guilty traffic in human flesh, which is declared felony by Acts of the Imperial Parliament. Under such a stimulus, the slave owners of Cuba have, in three years, raised their production from 900,000 to 1,500,000 boxes of sugar, or 300,000 tons."

Nothing, certainly, can be more inconsistent than the course which the Government have taken on the sugar question. They have not stimulated the British sugar growers to a healthy condition, by forcing them into a wholesome competition with the foreign growers of sugar by free labour, but have depressed them by stimulating the slave-trade, and strengthening the system of slavery in Brazil and the Spanish colonies. Surely this crooked policy will not be continued.

Lord Brougham, the Bishop of Oxford, and Lord Carlisle have presented petitions from the islands of Jamaica, Grenada, St. Vincent, and other places, most numerous and respectfully signed, urging upon Government the adoption of effectual measures for ensuring the strict fulfilment of the treaties for the suppression of the slave-trade—the liberation from slavery of all Africans who have been illicitly introduced into Brazil and the Spanish colonies, contrary to the said treaties—and the exclusion of their produce from the British markets, until these demands be honourably executed. In this prayer we cordially concur; but we tell our friends in the several colonies, that if they would command success, they must renew their memorials to the Crown and the Government, and their petitions to Parliament. We trust they will employ the winter months in organising a grand demonstration on the points suggested, and not be wearied until they have secured their great object.

It affords us sincere gratification to find that the public press in *British Guiana* is beginning to take alarm at the costly and absurd schemes of immigration which have hitherto found so much favour in the eyes of the Court of Policy and of the Home Government. On the 14th of May last, her Majesty was pleased to appoint, under the direction of Earl Grey, ANDREW COLVILLE, JAMES CAVAN, WILLIAM KING, CHARLES M'GAREL, CHARLES CAYE, and M. M'CHLERY, Esquires, Commissioners in England, for raising the sum of £500,000 "for immigration purposes;" and thereupon the Court of Policy were actively engaged in hurrying through a series of immigration ordinances, the nature of which scarcely any one but themselves could conjecture. It is clear, however, a vast importation of Coolies is to be provided for. The *Royal Gazette*, after condemning the past schemes of immigration, concludes a well-written article in the following terms:—

"Let the legislature, if it will, provide for African and Portuguese immigration: but we implore it to pause ere it finally commits the colony to the intolerable burden of a costly, delusive, and unsatisfactory immigration of Coolies and Chinese, whose importation can prove of no lasting benefit, but to some ship-owners in the mother country, their consignees here, and such immigration agents at Calcutta, Canton, and elsewhere, as the colony may be ill-advised enough to appoint, with salaries proportioned to the vastness of an immigration project, the cost of which to this impoverished colony is estimated at 2,000,000 dollars at least."

The *Colonist* writes in the same strain:—

"Had not the mail arrived, it was our intention to have gone at some length into an exposure of the inevitably injurious tendencies of the proposed renewal of Coolie immigration, with the view of stimulating every independent man, who has the permanent interests and welfare of the colony and its inhabitants at heart, to come forward energetically, ere it be too late, to resist the bold scheme of a few individuals to mortgage, for the advantage of themselves and their associates, a large portion of the revenues of the colony for the next twenty years. But we cannot forbear pressing on the attention of the community the importance of calling for a detailed account of the cost that has already been incurred in the matter of bringing immigrants to this country. The overtaxed inhabitants of this colony, who have borne the entire burthen, are surely entitled to know how and why their own money has been expended."

The *Anti-slavery Reporter* is now avenged for all the insults heaped upon it by these papers, in past times, for pressing these very points on the attention of the people of Guiana. Before that fine province can prosper, we believe that immigration, if it be carried on at all, must be conducted on the principles we have so frequently advocated; and the present clique, who misgovern the colony, be deprived of all power of promoting their selfish and despotic designs.

We learn that the intention of the Governor and Court of Policy to load the colony with additional debts is to be resisted; and that earnest petitions are to be presented against it. They will permit us to say that they must do more than this: they must petition the Imperial Parliament, and tell the Government plainly that they will no longer submit to be taxed for purposes into which their interests do not enter. They have the right on their side; let them boldly avow, and resolutely act upon it.



## Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—August 1.

## THE SLAVE-TRADE.

The Bishop of OXFORD had several petitions to present on a subject to which he wished to call the attention of their lordships. The petitions came from parties who stated that they had a deep interest in the welfare of the West India colonies, and in the prosperity of the inhabitants of the continent of Africa. They stated that the slave-trade was still carried on upon the western coast of that continent, and they attributed it to the bad faith of the Brazilian Government. They, therefore, entreated the House to take measures to enforce the treaties which had been made with that Government.

Lord BROUGHAM supported the prayer of these petitions, and declared that it was consolatory to him to know that they would in future have the support of the chief magistrate of the United States.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—August 8.

## IMMIGRATION OF AFRICANS INTO THE WEST INDIES.

On the third reading of the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill being proposed—

Mr. BERNAL called the attention of the Under-Secretary for the Colonies to the defective state of the regulations respecting the immigration of Africans into the West India colonies, and more particularly into Jamaica. By the existing regulations, African immigrants could only be bound by contract to their employers for one year, whereas three years were absolutely necessary. In the first year the immigrants were, to a certain extent, useless. They generally arrived in a sickly condition, often covered with sores, almost always unused to the business upon which they were employed, and intractable; and in consequence of their inability to labour, and the expense of medical attendance, he had often known the employer out of pocket for the first year. If the contract were allowed to extend for three years, however, these disadvantages would be overcome. He had always contended that the African labourers were by far the best adapted to the cultivation of the soil in the West Indies—decidedly preferable to the Coolies, against the introduction of whom he had always set his face. The state of the labouring population in Jamaica was deserving of the serious and paternal attention of the Government. He did not come there claiming protection, but he thought that, as a West India proprietor, he was entitled to ask the Government to assist in regulating the supply of labour; and he feared that if the consideration of that question were delayed much longer, the most lamentable consequences would follow.

Mr. HUME said, that what the West India colonies wanted was that labour should be free. At the present moment it was restricted. They did not want protection—at least, so far as Trinidad was concerned, protection was not wanted; but they desired that the same contracts for labour that were allowed in England should be allowed there. He had often said, why should they not be allowed to have labourers from the coast of Africa? The change would be decidedly beneficial to the labourers. They were slaves in Africa, but the moment they set their foot on our shores they would be free men, and would be placed under the protection of magistrates paid by this country. He could enter into the prejudice against their removal to colonies where slavery existed, but he could not understand why any one should object to their removal to a free country. If the Government wished to preserve the colonies, if they wished the produce of the colonies to supply our markets, and our manufactures to be sent to the colonies, they should encourage the supply of labour.

Mr. HAWES should be exceedingly sorry if the House imagined that the Colonial-office was indisposed to attend to the observations either of the hon. member for Rochester or the hon. member for Montrose on this subject. Both of them had paid great attention to it, and the hon. member for Rochester had considerable experience and an intimate knowledge of the state of our colonies. He fully admitted the distress which prevailed in the West Indies, and he greatly deplored it. He thought the proprietors entitled to every sympathy which the legislature could extend to them, consistently with the principles of commercial policy which he believed were now firmly established in this country. The observations of the hon. member for Rochester had been almost entirely confined to the nature of the contract which ought to be sanctioned between the employer of labour and the labourer. The observations of the hon. member for Montrose related to a totally different subject, viz., the general supply of labour. He proposed, in the few observations which he intended to address to the House, to keep these two subjects quite distinct. The hon. member for Rochester said he was convinced that a contract of three years was absolutely necessary. His noble friend at the head of the Colonial-office—and he (Mr. Hawes) shared the feeling with him—did not rely with any confidence upon long contracts of that kind, because it was quite in the power of the labourer, if he was unwilling to work, to make the contract a burden instead of a benefit; and there was nothing they could do to enforce the contract without resorting to means which would be justly objected to by a large portion of the people of this country. He was aware that there was a prevailing opinion among the planters and others interested in property in the West Indies, that unless labour were obtained under longer contracts, it would not be found beneficial to the employer. Under these circumstances his noble friend had sanctioned contracts for a term of three years in British Guiana. But in Jamaica at this moment the law limited the contract to one year, and, if anything was to be done to extend the term, as respected that island, it must be done by the local legislature, and not by the Secretary of State in this country. His noble friend, however, having sanctioned three years in British Guiana, would, of course, be quite prepared to sanction it also in Jamaica. The same thing had been done in Trinidad. His hon. friend the member for Rochester had said that the only species of immigrants that would be useful in the West Indies were African labourers. But there was this difficulty with respect to that class of immigrants, that by existing treaties the Africans were considered as free subjects, and it would be contrary to those treaties

if liberated Africans, upon being landed in our colonies, were compelled to enter into a three years' engagement. But they might be employed for a period of one year, and if, after that, they chose to enter into a three years' engagement no objection could be made to it (hear, hear); but it must be a free contract, and not compulsory upon their landing in the colonies. His honourable friend had also said that the importation of Coolies would not be useful in Jamaica; but he (Mr. Hawes) must remind him that that was not a universal impression in Jamaica. With respect to the observations of the hon. member for Montrose, upon the supply of labour generally, he begged to say that there was nothing to prevent the importation of free immigrants into the West India colonies. What his hon. friend wanted was, that merchants should be permitted to go to the coast of Africa and buy them from the hands of slave-dealers, and to take them to the colonies, where, upon their landing, they would be declared free. But his hon. friend seemed to have forgotten the internal state of Africa; that those labourers to which he referred were brought down to the coast as slaves; that they had been either taken in war, or had been stolen for the purpose. To suppose that the people of this country would sanction the supply of labour to any part of the British empire by slave dealers, was out of the question. They would never sanction such an iniquitous proceeding. But the Colonial-office had given every possible facility to the planters to get free labourers from the coast of Africa. A Government vessel had been fitted out for the purpose of conveying them to the colonies, and that house had voted a considerable sum towards the scheme; but the experiment had failed. What greater possible assistance could the Government have given? Many representations had been made to the Government in favour of the renewal of Coolie immigration. He was happy to say, that arrangements were being made to comply with that request. He might state, that arrangements were also being made for the introduction of Chinese immigrants into Trinidad. When Dr. Gutzlaff was in this country, he (Mr. Hawes) had had communications with him on that subject, and also with a gentleman connected with Trinidad, and the result was, that arrangements were in progress for the importation of free Chinese immigrants into Trinidad.

The Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill was then read a third time.

On the question that it do pass,

Mr. HUME repeated his complaint of want of free labour in our West India colonies. He had always contended that they never could put down slavery in Brazil and Cuba until they could make free labour cheaper than slave labour. If, therefore, they refused to assist our colonies to procure free labour, so as to enable them to reduce the cost of their produce, and undersell the Brazilians and the Cubans, they must be considered a party to the perpetuation of slavery. Was it not better to buy a slave on the coast of Africa, and make him a freeman in our colonies, than to allow the Brazilians and Cubans to buy him, and continue him in a condition of slavery? It was said, that Exeter-hall would not permit such a thing. Pooh, pooh, for Exeter-hall! Exeter-hall had done too much evil already, and he hoped the time was come when less attention would be paid to the ignorance and prejudice which emanated from that quarter.

The bill was then passed.

## CUBA, THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT, AND THE SLAVE-TRADE.

(Times, August 12.)

The relations between the Government of Spain and its Cuban subjects are just now assuming an aspect of which the interest is by no means confined to the parties most immediately concerned. From time immemorial the affairs of this magnificent colony have been administered after a fashion which, in other quarters, has been for many generations extinct. At Havana the traditions of the 16th century have survived in full force and vigour up to the present moment, and the legends related of old Spanish viceroys acquire abundant probability from incidents actually transpiring under our own eyes. The island of Cuba, containing nearly 800,000 inhabitants, is governed by a Captain-General holding office directly from the crown of Spain. His authority is virtually absolute, the people of Cuba having no participation in the rights of their Spanish fellow-subjects, but being at the mercy of customs and ordinances peculiar to the colony. That this exceptional practice should have been perpetuated by the Spanish Government is a less remarkable fact than that it should have been tolerated by a dependency under circumstances which were yearly augmenting its relative importance and power. Such, however, is actually the case. In this 19th century the Captain-Generalship of Cuba has been notoriously sought and bestowed as the means of acquiring or restoring a fortune, and in so short a space of time was the result secured, that four or five years of office was reputed to be a tenure which no Governor, however poverty-stricken or covetous, need desire to exceed. It is natural to view with some distrust the reports which recent exposures have brought into circulation, but it is currently alleged that the annual perquisites of the place fell little short of £100,000 sterling, and that a Captain-General of Cuba, after five years' absence, might reasonably expect to return to Spain with his half-million of realised gains.

To judge from the present proceedings, it might be supposed that the Spanish Government had really no sufficient cognisance of these practices. The late piratical attempt upon the island has naturally attracted unusual attention to its affairs, and the Cubans have seized the opportunity created by the ferment to memorialise the Government at home in a spirit befitting the occasion. It is said that any such appeal has previously been rendered impracticable by the constitution of the colony, which threw the entire administration into the hands of the Captain-General,



and left him the sole medium of communication between the colonists and the Crown. That such ignorance could, in the present age, have really and truly existed, it is not easy to believe; but it is, nevertheless, true that the receipt of a memorial from the colony by the Spanish Government has just created an extraordinary sensation in Madrid, and is at this moment furnishing the uppermost topics of speculation and rumour. The actual contents of the document have not been permitted to transpire; but it is generally understood to comprise a statement of the grievances above described, and a petition for a more equitable and liberal administration in future.

It is probable that recent events have only precipitated disclosures which had been for some time impending. The reader may, perhaps, recollect that when the Count de Mirasol departed for the command in question, a short time before the American invasion, he was accompanied by a commission, which was understood to be charged with an inquiry into the general working of the colonial administration, and the notorious discontents of the people. This commission, it appears, is now to be withdrawn, but only to be succeeded by some more effective instrument of pacification. These rumoured resolutions, on the part of the Spanish Government, have certainly not been decided upon before their time. The colonists have entitled themselves to respectful consideration by their behaviour at the late conjuncture. They have evinced a plain indisposition to renounce their old allegiance for a republican connexion, and have shown great promptitude in supporting the Government against overt or insidious aggressions on its rights. On the other hand, a spirit of political enlightenment has been so diffused throughout the island, that it would be unsafe to perpetuate the abuses of past times. Secret associations of reformers are known to exist in the colony, and Cuban independence has been openly discussed as a legitimate problem. It is certainly true that the possession of the island is guaranteed to the Spanish Crown by two powerful States, but we have received ample evidence of late years that such guarantees against foreign aggression are not readily interpreted into obligations of protection against the retributive assaults of a misgoverned and exasperated people.

A variety of considerations combine to attach a general interest to these transactions between Spain and her colony. Cuba is almost in the position of a "protected" territory,—that is to say, of a territory which is secured by common consent to its existing proprietors, in order to obviate the difficulties which would attend a change of ownership. The sentiments with which it is regarded by at least one moiety of the United States have just been put plainly on record, and, although the free-soil Governments have at present an incidental motive for repudiating the acquisition, yet Cuba is spoken of, in the old traditions of the Union, as an Isle of Wight properly pertaining to an American Hampshire. The policy of the Supreme Government on the point has been intelligibly expressed by a compact with Spain, guaranteeing that State in the possession of the island, in return for a pledge that it should not be voluntarily alienated to any other European power. This was the best compromise permitted by the circumstances of the period, since, in default of any better opportunity, it at least maintained that particular state of affairs from which most was to be hoped.

The interests of England in the proceedings are of a different kind. Cuba and Brazil are the countries which, by the bad faith of their rulers, are permitted to compel us to the hopeless maintenance of our African squadron. It is certainly true that the proportion of the delinquency chargeable upon Cuba is not very large, though the result is in no wise due, as the reader will presently see, to any amendment of principle in the administration of the island. Still, if by any change of policy the harbours of Cuba could be actually closed against the slave-trade, it would be a material point gained in the struggle, and such a consequence may perhaps be hoped from the effectual reforms now promised in the colonial Government. How far the costly and desperate efforts of England on the African coast were seconded, according to treaty, by the Cuban authorities, may be inferred from the edifying fact that, on the very day when Narciso Lopez disembarked on the coast with his battalion of brigands, one thousand slaves were landed from Africa at Havana, which realised an immediate profit to the Captain-General of no less than 3,000 ounces of gold.

A new Governor is now to depart for the colony in the person of General Jose de la Concha, who will take with him a formidable detachment of Spanish troops. The circumstances of the colony justify so naturally the maintenance of a strong garrison in the island, that there is no reason for attributing any extraordinary motives to the levy which the new Captain-General made an imperative condition of his accepting the command. It can hardly be doubted that Cuba will shortly be the scene of important movements, the direction and result of which will be determined less by the military force at the command of the authorities than by the discretion and judgment exercised in the cabinet of Madrid. In this country there can be but one desire upon the point, and that is that legitimate commerce may speedily experience the benefits which would result from the better administration of this spacious and productive island.

#### THE EXPEDITION TO CENTRAL AFRICA.

Some interesting details have lately been received respecting Mr. Richardson, the enterprising African traveller. Mr. Richardson left Tripoli at the latter end of March, for the interior of Africa. The transport of the boat for navigating the lakes had been a source of great anxiety and immense difficulty. It had to be conveyed a four months' journey over the burning sands of Africa before it reached Lake Tchad. The Admiral at Malta had constructed a beautiful craft, broad in the beam, and as light as cork on the water. Mr. Richardson and his German travelling companions would proceed first to Mourzouk by the route of Midgal, not yet travelled by Europeans; afterwards from Mourzouk to Ghat, and thence through the country of the Surtanieks to Aheer and —, where they would remain till the termination of the rainy season in the tropics, which lasts fully three months, and during which all human labour is suspended. This season of fever terminated, Mr. Richardson and Drs. Barker and Overweg would proceed to Kanon and Tukkaton, the principal cities of Soudan and of the Fellental empire. They would then turn eastward to Bornou, when they would explore the waters to Lake Tchad; and if anything happen to the boat *en route* they will construct a new one, being well provided with tools and other boat-building apparatus. The shores of the Tchad being explored, Drs. Barker and Overweg will separate from Mr. Richardson, the two former proceeding farther east, towards the Mountains of the Moon and the eastern coast of Africa, and the last returning north to the Mediterranean on the old Bornou route. Mr. Richardson is expected to return to Tripoli in the course of a year-and-a-half; but, of course, the period of the return of his companions cannot be brought within the same compass, nor even conjectured.

The following is the latest information, and is derived from letters addressed to the Chevalier Bunsen and Professor Karl Ritter, by Dr. Overweg, the geographer attached to the expedition now on its way to Lake Tchad. These letters, dated Mourzouk, 25th of May, and accompanied by an excellent map, describe the route from Tripoli to that place, through a tract of country hitherto unexplored by any scientific traveller. The direction of this route is almost due south from Tripoli, turning south-east on approaching Mourzouk; and beyond the Garian Pass—which is about thirty-five miles from Tripoli, and near which is Mount Tekut, having an elevation of 2,800 feet—the country consists of a continuous table-land. As far as the Well of Tabonia (in about 30 deg. 28 min. N. lat.), many deep wadis intersect this table-land, and the ruins of several Roman monuments and columns were discovered by the travellers. Beyond (to the south of) Tabonia, is the table-land of the Hamada; an immense desert, of considerably greater elevation, and extending about 110 geographical miles to the South. As far as the eye can reach, neither trees nor wells are visible, and the scanty vegetation which occurs is to be met with only here and there in the trifling irregularities of the surface. The ground is covered with small stones; pyramids of which, erected with great labour, serve as road-marks to the intrepid camel drivers by day—while the Polar Star and Antares are their guides by night. After six long days' journey, the expedition reached the southern edge of this table-land; which descends in perpendicular walls to the Wadi el Hessi (in about 28 deg. 30 min. N. lat.). From hence to the Wadi Shiali is about sixty geographical miles, over another plateau of less elevation and extent than that of the Hamada, but of equally dismal aspect—the general direction of the route being S.S.E. It is composed of a black sandstone, the disintegration of which forms a coarse yellow sand, covering the inequalities of the stony surface; and from it stands out prominently the black rock, in high cones of the most fantastic forms, so much resembling basaltic rocks that Dr. Overweg's companions were often led to exclaim—"This must be a basaltic rock." He himself was frequently obliged to examine the rocks closely, in order not to be deceived. The monotony of the dreary black rock was relieved by the yellow sand, without which the whole of Fezzan would be a lifeless wilderness—as it is in the sand that the palm trees grow, and in the wadis filled with it that the wells are found. In the great Wadi of Fezzan, the expedition passed through a complete forest of palms, as well as through cultivated fields of wheat and barley. Another small table-land was traversed by the travellers before they reached Mourzouk, at which place they were awaiting the arrival from Ghat of the Tuarick escort, headed by Hatila, who calls himself "the friend of the English," from having escorted Oudney and Clapperton to Ghat. The party were all well, and in high spirits.

Of the varied oral information collected by the travellers respecting the interior of Africa, the most interesting, probably, is the statement made to Dr. Overweg, by a Baghirmi negro, that south of the latter's country is a nation of Kafirs (which means that they do not profess the Mohammedan religion,) who are clothed, possess large herds of cattle, and have iron weapons (war axes) of their own manufacture. Their country is mountainous, and is covered with snow every winter.

With regard to the latter part of this information, it may be remarked, that it seems to connect itself with the results recently arrived at by other travellers, and to afford reasonable grounds for the opinion that the interior of Africa consists of an immense table-land, extending, without



any material interruption, from the Mountains of Mendefi, south of Lake Tchad, as far as the Cape of Good Hope—and which is inhabited by nations of civilisation superior to that of other Africans; and that, in fact, this great plateau, from its elevation, resembles in its climate and physical characters much more a European than a tropical country, and offers an example analogous to that of the great Andean table-lands of South America. Mr. Rebmann, in speaking of the natives in the interior west of Mombas, from whom he received a very friendly reception, states that the character of the people is free from that savageness which would render it unadvisable for one or two individuals to reside in their country; and that it rather displays composure, gravity, and quietness—as is generally the case with people living in mountainous countries. Again, Mr. Cooley, in alluding to the Mucaranga, or people of Monomoezi, who annually descend in large numbers to Zanzibar to trade, says, that they are decently clothed in cotton of their own manufacture, and bring down their merchandise to the coast laden on asses of a fine breed. Of the natives met with by Mr. Livingston, near Lake Ngami, we have likewise favourable accounts, so that we may indulge the hope that as soon as Dr. Overweg and Dr. Barth shall reach the Mandara mountains, they will be beyond the reach of the deadly climate, and of the savage inhabitants of the African lowlands, and that they will afterward have fewer obstacles in pursuing their way S.E. in the direction of Mombas, their desired goal. It is, in fact, not until they shall have arrived beyond Lake Tchad that these zealous and energetic travellers consider that their real field of exploration will begin. The only fear is, that their pecuniary means may not be sufficient to enable them to carry out their gigantic undertaking.

#### UNITED STATES CONGRESS.—PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE.

##### THE OMNIBUS BILL.

July 22.

Mr. Foote submitted an amendment, providing that the State of California shall not exercise jurisdiction over any territory south of the line of 35° 30', until after the question of establishing a Territorial Government south of that line shall have been submitted to the people.

Mr. Clay took the floor. He commenced by expressing his firm conviction that the Union is in danger, stating the grounds of that conviction. He thanked the opponents of the Bill for calling it the "Omnibus;" an omnibus was the vehicle of the people. Mr. Clay, speaking of the incongruity of the elements opposed to the Bill, referred to the fact that Free-Soilers and extreme Southern men were united in opposition to the Bill.

Mr. Mason called upon Mr. Clay to say whether he knew of any consultation held between Southern senators and senators from the free States.

Mr. Clay—No. But will the senator say that Southern men opposed to the Bill have not had frequent consultations among themselves?

Mr. Mason—We have had frequent consultations on matters affecting the honour, dignity, and safety of the South.

Mr. Clay—Yes, no doubt of it; and others of us have had many consultations with reference to the honour, dignity, safety, and perpetuity of the Union. Mr. Clay proceeded at considerable length in support of the Bill, on which he has expended so much of his time and strength, repeating his former arguments in its behalf, straightening the crooked places of the seven months' debate on it, and demonstrating, as he believed, its impartiality as a Compromise measure between the North and the South. He apprehended, as a consequence of the defeat of the Bill, two civil wars,—one between Texas and New Mexico, and the other between Texas (to whose standard thousands of Southerners would flock) and the United States; and he concluded with an eloquent adjuration in favour of peace and the Union.

July 25.

The Senate took up the Bill; and Mr. Hale's amendment to Bradbury's, providing that in case of the appointment of a commission to settle the Texas boundary question, the rights of Texas and the United States shall remain as they were at the time of the ratification of the treaty at Guadalupe Hidalgo, until the commission decide the matter, was rejected, twenty-three to thirty.

July 26.

The Senate was the scene of a most animated and piquant debate, growing out of Mr. Bradbury's amendment to the Omnibus Bill, providing a commission for the settlement of the boundary between Texas and New Mexico. Mr. Seward forcibly showed that this amendment amounted to a surrender of the essential thing in the Bill, namely, the settlement of that boundary. He then moved to amend further by authorising the President to admit New Mexico to the Union by proclamation, provided he should be satisfied that the proceedings of her recent Convention have been ratified by the people. The amendment of Mr. S. was voted down.

July 29.

The great event of the day in the Senate was the decisive failure of the Bradbury amendment by a vote of twenty-eight to twenty-eight, which amounts to a rejection, there being now no President of the Senate with

a casting vote to give the victory to one of the parties in case of a tie. This may be considered as deciding the fate of the Compromise; for its authors and friends would never have consented to so essential a departure from its fundamental design as that amendment contemplated, had they thought it possible to carry the Bill without it.

The House, by a pretty close, though meagre vote of 86 to 83, (absent or not voting, 57,) decided to take up the California before the Appropriation Bills, and then went into committee and attempted to advance it. But all efforts in that direction were fruitless; whenever the committee was called on to vote there would be no quorum: then it would rise, and on a call of the House a quorum would appear. This process was repeated again and again throughout the day, and was found perfectly effectual, till at last the House adjourned. It is remarkable, however, that the vote above given, small as it was, was the largest recorded during the session. The Yeas and Nays on the adjournment were only 69 to 55, making in all 124 votes.

July 30.

Mr. Dawson offered an amendment, that until the boundary is agreed to by Texas and the United States, the Territorial Government authorised by this Bill shall not go into operation east of the Rio Grande, nor any State be established from New Mexico, embracing any territory east of the Rio Grande.

Mr. Benton rose and spoke warmly against the amendment.

August 1.

The Independent Bill for the admission of California was taken up, for the purpose of making it the special order.

The subject called forth an animated debate. Mr. Clay spoke with great earnestness of the obligation to maintain loyalty to the Union, and expressed his own determination to be faithful to its interests, in whatever course the path of duty might lead.

Aug. 5.

Mr. Pearce, of Md., introduced a Bill for the settlement of the boundary of Texas, proposing to pay Texas 10,000,000 dollars for that portion of New Mexico claimed by Texas, and lying north of 30° 30'; the money to be appropriated by Texas to the payment of debts incurred by her in the prosecution of her war of Independence. The California Bill was taken up, and pending a motion for the engrossment of the Bill, the Senate adjourned.

August 9.

Mr. Pearce's Bill, fixing a boundary between Texas and New Mexico, and paying Texas 10,000,000 dollars for relinquishing her "claim" to the Territory North and West of that line, passed by a majority of ten. Yeas, 30; Nays, 20. Messrs. Davis and Winthrop of Mass., Clarke and Greene of R. I., and Phelps of Vt., voting with and making the majority. None of these could vote for the Omnibus Bill because it conceded too much to slavery, yet this Bill practically concedes more than that did.

August 12.

The California Bill was ordered to be engrossed, by a vote of 39 to 19, notwithstanding the usual efforts to stave it off. The question then coming up on its passage, after a speech by Mr. Davis, of Miss., the Senate adjourned.

August 14.

The Bill for the admission of California as she is, has passed the test votes in the Senate—by yeas, 33; nays, 19.

The present is a politically critical period in the United States. Every movement is pregnant with important consequences—and every hour brings forth new developments.

Both this and the Texas Boundary Bill have to pass the House of Representatives, where they will be opposed, but it is said the Southern disunionists are not sufficiently strong to defeat them.

A private meeting of Southern members was held in Washington, thirty being present. They passed resolutions, declaring—

"1st. That the laws and constitution of the United States shall be the fundamental laws of the territories.

"2nd. That if the Northern States peril the life and liberty of American citizens, they will insist on a division of the country on the line of 36° 30', with a distinct recognition of property in slaves.

"3rd. That they will vote against the admission of California, unless restricted to parallel of 36° 30'.

"4th. That they will not agree to any boundary of Texas and New Mexico which proposes a cession to New Mexico of any portion of territory south of 36° 30', and west of the Rio Grande, prior to the adjustment of the territorial questions.

"5th. That the representatives from the South will resist, by all constitutional means, the Texas and California Bills, until the settlement of the territorial question.

"6th. That the committee of fifteen be continued, and that they call the Southern members together when advisable."



## Foreign Intelligence.

UNITED STATES.—A PUZZLE FOR PHILEMON.—Rev. Dr. Eli Noyes, the distinguished Hebrew scholar of the Free-will Baptists, and now pastor of the Roger Williams Church of Providence, writes to the *Morning Star* an interesting account of a modern Onesimus whom he had "begotten," not in his "bonds," but amid the joyful feeling of one who has escaped from a bondage worse than death. Perhaps some of the signers of the letters to Mr. Webster have been so long strangers to the feeling of spiritual parentage, that it would be idle to appeal to such sensibilities as Paul expressed to Philemon. But there are thousands of Christian pastors, to whom no casuistry can confute the candid conclusion of Mr. Noyes.

A FUGITIVE FROM SLAVERY.—"Yesterday we baptised, in the Roger Williams Church, a man who recently escaped from one of our States, where he was held in slavery. Now, we suppose it was right enough for the church to receive him to fellowship upon a profession of his faith, and for us to baptise him; even slaveholders, understand, do the same. But what are we to do with him now? Some of our great men, statesmen, divines, &c., have been calling us back 'to our constitutional duties,' which they say require us to send the fugitive back to his master. Now, we wish to be good, peaceable, and obedient citizens. We by no means wish to favour any fanaticism that would destroy our glorious Union. We wish to act deliberately, rationally, and charitably in this affair, and yet we do not see how we can send our brother back into slavery; for, to tell the plain truth, he won't go; and should we advise him to do so, and send a letter by him, as Paul did by his convert, Onesimus, he would only doubt our friendship, and we are confident no modern Philemon of the South would receive our epistle from his hand. Well, considering that the man has been sold four times, and has had a pretty decent quantum of flogging, we cannot blame him. He does not believe that even his profession of Christianity would shield him from the awful lash, for Philemon of late has become fearfully impartial towards all runaways, saint and sinner,—brother according to the flesh, and brethren according to the Spirit, must share the same fate from his implacable hand. Upon the whole, we conclude that we shall not send our brother back into slavery, till God gives us another Bible, from which we do not read, 'Thou shalt not deliver unto his master the servant which is escaped from his master unto thee. He shall dwell with thee, even among you, in that place which he shall choose in one of thy gates, where it liketh him best; thou shalt not oppress him.' Deut. xxiii. 15, 16. No, we shall not send him back till God effaces the last sentiment of humanity, which he has written with his own finger upon our hearts. Neither shall we let any one take him away. We believe our brother is about as safe among us, as he would be in Canada. Though many of us are great peace men, yet we think it would be a very difficult affair, indeed, for any gang of man-stealers to kidnap and carry off our friend."—*New York Independent*.

OREGON.—THE INDIAN TRIBES IN OREGON—THEIR CHARACTER AND NUMBERS—SLAVERY AMONG THEM.—(Oregon Correspondence of the *Tribune*.)—Fort Nisqually (Oregon Territory), Aug. 25, 1849.—All are delighted with the country and the climate, and the officers speak of sending to California for suitable wheeled vehicles, that they may enjoy a daily drive through the natural park scenery about the Sound.

I have been collecting the statistics of the Indian tribes in this region of country, and send you the following:—

First—The *Makaw*, or Cape Flattery Indians, are warlike, occupying the country about Cape Flattery and the coast, for some distance to the southward, and eastward to the boundary of the Halam or Noostlalum lands. They number about 1000 souls. They live by fishing, hunting, and the cultivation of the potato.

Second—The *Noostlalums* consist of eleven tribes or septs, living about the entrance of Hood's Canal, Dungeness, Port Discovery, and the coast to the westward. They are warlike, and their relations with the white inhabitants of Oregon and with the Hudson's Bay Company are doubtful. They live by fishing, hunting, and the cultivation of the potato. Their numbers are, males, 517; females, 461; children under twelve years, 467; slaves, 40; total, 1485.

Third—The *Squamish* are a warlike tribe of Indians, whose relations with the whites and with the Hudson's Bay Company are friendly. They occupy the country about Port Orchard and neighbourhood, and the west side of Whidby's Island.—Males, 150; females, 95; children under twelve years, 210; slaves, 64; total, 519. They live by labour.

Fourth—The *Homamish*, *Hollimamish*, *Squahsinawmish*, *Sayhaywamish*, *Stitchassamish*, are peaceable tribes, numbering about 500, who subsist by fishing and labour. They reside in the country from the Narrows along the western shore of Puget's Sound to New Market.

Fifth—The *Tuanoh* and *Skokomish* tribes reside along the shores of Hood's Canal. They number about 200, are peaceable, and subsist by fishing and labour.

Sixth—The *Squallyamish* and *Pugallipamish* are situated in the country about Nisqually, Pugallippi and Sinuomish rivers. Males, 200; females,

220; children under twelve years, 190; slaves, 40; total, 550. They are peaceable and friendly, and live by labour and fishing.

Seventh—The *Sinahemish* is a peaceable and friendly tribe, subsisting by labour, fishing, and hunting. They live on the Sinahemish River (falling into Possession Sound) and the southern extremity of Whidby's Island. Males, 95; females, 98; children under twelve years, 110; slaves, 30; total 333.

Eighth—The *Snoqualimich* are a warlike tribe, part of whom are hostile to the whites. They occupy the country along the Snoqualimich River, and the south branch of the Sinahemish River. They subsist by fishing and hunting. Males, 110; females, 140; children under twelve years, 90; slaves, 8; total, 348.

Ninth—The *Skeyschamish* occupy the country along the Skeyschamish River, and the north branch of the Sinahemish. They number about 450; are peaceable and friendly, and subsist by fishing and hunting.

Tenth—The *Skadjets* are a peaceable and friendly tribe, living by farming, fishing, and hunting. They reside in the country on both sides of the Skadjet River, and on the north end of Whidby's Island. Males, 160; females, 160; children under twelve years of age, 180; slaves, 10; total, 506.

Eleventh—The *Nooklummie* live around Bellingham's Bay. They are a warlike people, subsisting by farming, fishing, and hunting; and their relations with the white inhabitants of Oregon, and with the Hudson's Bay Company, are doubtful. Males, 60; females, 50; children under twelve years, 90; slaves, 22; total, 222.

Twelfth—The *Staktomish* inhabit the country between Nisqually and Coulitz and the head waters of Chehalis River. Males, 50; females, 56; children under twelve years of age, 80; slaves, 18; total, 204. This tribe is peaceable and friendly, and subsist upon roots and fish.

You will probably be surprised that slavery so generally prevails among these Indians. This odious and most wicked system of oppression exists among all the tribes in every portion of Oregon. I have been among the Indians as a traveller or upon business, either public or private, in most sections of this territory, and my personal observation confirms the statement which I have made respecting a system the same in kind with that by which the unhappy African race are down-trodden in our Southern States.

I had prepared a series of notes upon the subject of the character and destiny of the Indians of North America; but they are, perhaps, not suited to your paper. I will only say here, that the Indians of this country are wasting away, and that the time is probably not very far remote when they will be extinct.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

ACHILLES DE HARLEY.

MAURITIUS.—The advices from this colony extend to the 24th of June, and continue to report favourably of both the agricultural and commercial state and prospect of the island. Economy, it is remarked in private letters, has been observed in every department. The public expenditure has been reduced, and the cost of production of the staple article reduced as much as possible, whilst the resources of the island have been made more productive. The want of a sufficient supply of labour was said to be much felt, and a large immigration of Coolies from India was strongly urged. The crop of new sugar would be large and in the market early this season, and shipments commenced during the month of August. Of the old crop, very little remained on hand unsold. The exports to the 20th of June had been 115,067,265 lbs.

NATAL.—THE COTTON LANDS.—The emigrants who lately settled down here, are, many of them, we understand, industriously employed in breaking up the ground and building houses. Certainly this party is deserving of great credit for the determination they have shown to carry out at once the objects of their emigration. We earnestly hope their industry will be rewarded.

SUGAR GROWING.—We understand several Mauritius gentlemen have arrived in the *Elizabeth Jane*, and are intending to settle at Natal, with a view of raising sugar plantations. We know not why this should not succeed. We have seen as fine canes along the Omgeni River, and both at D'Urban and Pietermaritzburg, as have ever been grown, and practical men will soon tell us whether false hopes have been entertained respecting the raising of an article which will form a valuable export for the colony.

SUGAR IN FRANCE.—The *Moniteur* publishes an account of the situation of the home-made sugar manufacture. On July 31, that is, at the end of the eleventh month of the sugar year, the quantity made was 60,763,790 kilos., or nearly 23,000,000 more than 1849 had given at the corresponding period. What is more remarkable is, that only 6,500,000 kilos. remain on hand, or 327,269 kilos. more than in 1849. The number of factories at work has increased, being 288 in place of 284. The unoccupied factories have decreased from 23 to 9.

HAVANA, JULY 27.—Since our report of the 26th June, the prices of sugar have advanced, and it is likely they will be upheld. Besides the fact of a much smaller quantity existing for shipment, the prospective wants of the United States, where it is ascertained the stock is full 30,000 tons short of last year, are an important feature, although that



country has received, from this port and Matanzas alone, 60,000 boxes more than at the same period in 1849. Then it is interesting also to observe the division of the exports to other places. To the Baltic, about 50,000 boxes more have gone forward than last year, being composed of white sugar. To France there is an excess, in the shipments, from the north side, of about the equivalent of 40,000 boxes; and an excess of nearly the same quantity has gone forward to Italian ports, as compared with last year. In thus analysing the exports, it will be found that the other markets of the North Sea and those of Great Britain, taken collectively, have received much less of our sugar than last year. Much anxiety is felt, and a great degree of uncertainty exists, in regard to the progress of the cholera in the interior of the island, and as to its probable effects upon the next and subsequent crops. This disease has not yet been general, but it continues to spread in various directions, and its ravages in many cases have been appalling. On several estates, the destruction of life among the negroes amounts to twenty-five and thirty per cent., and in some cases, forty and forty-five per cent. of the whole number; and the most efficient are generally the victims. Should the disease diffuse itself throughout the island, the loss of life among the slave operatives would, in this ratio, probably not be short of 100,000 to 125,000. Even at the present average rate of mortality on the estates, the estimates as to the ultimate destruction of life among the negroes, in the event of the epidemic becoming general throughout the interior, are not less than 70,000, or 80,000. The period of the year is, unfortunately, not favourable for checking the malady. The labourers carried off are an irreparable loss, because there is no resource available at present from which they can be replaced. The loss falls heavily on the production of sugar, because that branch has already absorbed the available labourers previously employed in the culture of coffee, the yield of which article has been insignificant for several years. It appears, therefore, inevitable that the sugar crop of next season will be seriously curtailed in quantity from the want of labourers, and this lamentable fact must make itself felt before long.

**CUBA.**—The slave-trade seems, unfortunately, to be carried on with great activity in Cuba, and we are told by the editor of the *New Orleans Delta*, that "on the very night preceding the landing of the late Cuban expedition at Cardenas, a large vessel came quietly up to the wharf, and landed 600 negroes from the hold—poor, miserable, half-dead, shadows of men, who had been torn from their homes in Africa, and introduced into the island by the consent and to the great profit of the Captain-General of Cuba. Shortly after this occurrence, a bag, containing 20,000 dollars, was found at the door of the Captain-General's sleeping apartments, which, as there appears no acknowledgment for the same in the published reports of the receipts of the treasury, we presume went to swell the already large pile of savings of the Conde de Alcoy, during his very economical administration. Now, these facts we learn from a highly intelligent citizen, who was lately in the vicinity of the transactions when they occurred, and they have been substantially confirmed by the statements of others. They are facts notorious to all Americans and foreigners in Cuba."

**PRICE OF LABOUR IN CUBA.**—The captain of a West India ship, just arrived from Matanzas, states that he was unable to obtain labourers to assist in storing his cargo at a less rate than 4s. 2d. per day for each man. Of course there was no other way of procuring such labourers than by application to a slavemaster, to whom he paid a dollar a day for each. All the English ships in the harbours had been taken up to convey produce to America. Sugars were in great demand, and fetched a high price. Freight to America were very high, and many more vessels would have been taken up, if they had been to be had. He describes the journey by railroad from Matanzas to Havana as very tedious. The distance from the one place to the other in a direct line would be 60 miles, but owing to the line running through several places in the interior of the country, instead of pursuing the direct course, nine hours were occupied on the journey. There was only one place of worship that he could hear of in Matanzas, although the population is above 16,000. No attention is paid to the instruction of the slaves, who are kept in the most brutal state of ignorance. Men, and even women, who ride through the interior, go armed with swords, in consequence of a general fear of attacks from the negro population. The cultivation of the country was not at all to be compared with that of Barbadoes.

**BRAZILS.**—By the ship *Empress*, in thirty-three days from Bahia, we have advices from Rio de Janeiro to the 18th, and Bahia to the 26th of July. An unfortunate affair, in which H. M. steam-ship *Cormorant* was concerned, had taken place. The steamer went into Paranaquay, and took possession of four vessels said to be slavers, and whilst towing them out was fired on from the fort; the shot killing one man, and wounding others. The *Cormorant* immediately sent off the prizes, anchored close to the fort, and with her 84-pounders soon demolished it. Great excitement prevailed at Rio, and at the time it was not safe for Englishmen to appear in certain parts of the city. The House of Representatives immediately authorised the Government to impose higher duties on all English manufactures and shipping; a measure the Senate

was not thought likely to approve of. This, in addition to the pestilence, and the proceedings of our own Government, go, say our private letters, to render our residence in the country uncomfortable.

### Colonial Intelligence.

**JAMAICA.**—We notice that at the last meeting of the Commissioners of Accounts, at Kingston, a letter from the Agent-General of Immigration was laid before the Board, accompanied by a list of no less than one hundred and twenty-three Coolies, who claim a fulfilment of the contract made with them, that at the expiration of a certain term of years, they should be entitled to a free passage back to the place where they embarked.

This is but one of the evils arising from the importation of Coolie labourers, and though a certain honourable commissioner did rise in his place, and say, "It could never have been intended to send them back," or words of similar import, yet we do affirm that it was intended to send them back; and further, that the agents in the East Indies were authorised to agree to give them a free passage back to the place of embarkation, after the lapse of a certain number of years,—and although we all know that this was most unwise, and, indeed, culpable legislation,—yet the "Country party" were at that period in the ascendant, in the popular branch of the legislature; and it ill becomes the present leader of that almost expiring party, now to turn round and say, "it never could have been intended to send the Coolies back:" now that the island treasury has been reduced to the very verge of bankruptcy, by the lavish expenditure of this very party, they turn round and ask us to do an act of positive injustice. But this will, we trust, never be. True is it that we are poor, but not, we hope, so poor as to compel us to be dishonest; as, indeed, it would appear that it is desired we should be. We trust, however, that upon the meeting of the legislature due provision will be made for the giving those Coolies who have fulfilled the terms of their contract with us, a free passage back to the place whence they came, and that no effort will be made to repudiate the agreement entered into with them; for certain gentlemen may rest assured, that such a course will not be permitted by her Majesty's Government, even if the people of Jamaica should desire it, which, however, we know they do not.—*Trelawny*, July 18.

**BRITISH GUIANA.—IMMIGRATION.**—The following summary of the proceedings of the Court of Policy on the above subject is taken from the *Royal Gazette* of July the 18th.—Since the departure of the last packet on the 5th instant, the question of immigration in general, and of Coolie immigration in particular, has attracted the chief part of the public attention. Three bills on this subject were introduced by the Attorney-General into the Court of Policy at its meeting on the 8th. These were, first, a Bill to regulate and encourage immigration, that is to say, upon immigration generally; secondly, a Bill to provide for the subsistence and the moral and religious instruction of such captured Africans as the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies may honour us with; and thirdly, a Bill for the encouragement of Chinese immigration. These Bills passed their first and second readings on that day. However, upon the next meeting of the Court, which occurred upon the 11th, it appeared desirable to the Legislature still further to subdivide the legislation on the rather perplexing subject of immigration; and the result was, that while the second and third Bills, those respecting Africans and Coolies, were allowed to remain unaffected, it was agreed that the first, the general Bill, should be withdrawn, referred back to the Attorney-General, assisted by the committee of the elective section of the Court, appointed some time ago to consult and co-operate with that honourable and learned gentleman in the preparation of these important measures, and divided into three distinct Bills—the first to relate to the duties of the Immigration Agent General; the second to Coolie immigration; and the third to Portuguese "ditto." This, we think, a judicious arrangement. Perspicuity and simplicity will be greatly promoted, in our opinion, by such a division of the matter, though a large amount of additional labour will be thereby imposed on that hard-worked public officer, the Attorney-General. Besides, another advantage will attend this arrangement. Objections that might have been entertained in the Court of Policy to one part of the original general bill, say, that relating to Coolie immigration, need not now obstruct legislation on the other parts of it, to which no objection may exist. Difficulties, in fact, have arisen with reference to Coolie immigration, to which some members of the Court, strongly supported by public opinion out of doors, object, upon the ground that it is at once unjust and extravagant to burthen the colony with the payment of the back passages of the Coolies to India at the end of five years' service here. In the interim, however, supposing the Court to be of one mind as to the expediency of revising the law in the mode at present contemplated, with regard to Portuguese immigration, or the duties of the immigration Agent-General, there will be nothing to prevent them from proceeding with and disposing of either or both of those subjects, which are now made independent of the other.

In truth, as regards the back passages of the Coolies, it is not easy to



see how the Court of Policy can well undertake to guarantee them, after what has been done by the Combined Court. Certain proceedings of the Combined Court at the beginning of this year constitute the foundation upon which the present immigration movement rests. It has now become necessary for the Court of Policy to legislate on that subject, in consequence of its having been agreed some months ago, in the other Court, to borrow £250,000 from the British Government, to devote £200,000 of that sum to the encouragement of immigration, and to authorise the importation of 10,000 Coolies into British Guiana, on the express understanding, however, that "no stipulation shall be made for providing the immigrants with a return passage at the expense of the colony." It may be recollected that in the early part of this year a special meeting of the Combined Court, which opened on the 7th February, was held for the purpose of taking into consideration "the measures necessary for obtaining such portion of the loan of £500,000, under the Act of Parliament 11 and 12 Vict., cap. 130, as it may be in the power of her Majesty's Government to allot to this colony, and other special matters of importance." Nor may our readers forget, that previously, namely, during the annual session of the same assembly for 1849, which session was not terminated till the 4th of February last, certain resolutions, moved by the financial representative for the city of Georgetown, Mr. Brand, were agreed to, for borrowing one half of that loan, namely, £250,000. During the same annual session, and a few days before its close, namely, on the 23rd of January, though after the resolutions moved by Mr. Brand had been adopted, a series of six resolutions, expressly bearing on the subject of Coolie immigration, were moved by Mr. Croal, seconded by Mr. Van Der Gon Netscher, and passed without a dissenting voice. These resolutions are so closely connected with the present state of the Coolie question, that they are well worth copying here; the more especially as, although they were in two points, one being the non-provision for return passages, protested against in a report from the Commissioners for Immigration Correspondence, dated the 31st January last, and read in the Combined Court on the 7th of the following month, they have never since been departed from by that assembly:—

"Resolved, 1. That the present distressed state of the agricultural interests of British Guiana are greatly aggravated by the want of continuous labour.

"2. That to mitigate the present distress as much as possible, it is necessary that a large influx of immigrants into the colony should take place without delay.

"3. That judging from the past, it is the opinion of this Court, that the only place from which a sufficient supply of immigrants can be procured in time, is from the East Indies.

"4. That his Excellency the Governor be requested to apply to the right honourable her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, to authorise the exportation of 10,000 Coolies from Calcutta into British Guiana under proper arrangements, and that the Loan Commissioners be authorised to raise money to defray the expenses incidental to the importation of a number not exceeding 10,000 immigrants, provided they can negotiate with her Majesty's Government to advance the money at par on the bonds of the colony.

"5. That a scheme of regulations be prepared by the Commissioners of Immigration in respect to the services of the Coolies and the nature of the contract, to be submitted to his Excellency the Governor and the Court of Policy for their approval, with a request that the same be transmitted to the right honourable the Secretary of State; but in such regulations no stipulation shall be made for providing the immigrants with a return passage at the expense of the colony.

"6. That parties requiring the services of such immigrants shall send in their applications by a specified time, and shall also engage to pay back to the colony one-half of the passage money. And all such parties as have Coolie immigrants now under indentures on their estates shall have a preference of supply from the new importation, to the extent at least of the number who may actually leave the colony by claiming their return passage."

Thus are the Indian Government, who insist on return passages for their Coolies, and the Combined Court, who refuse to guarantee them, directly at issue.

ANTIGUA.—The late seasonable rains, we are happy to find, have been turned to good account—the planters having availed themselves of the prevailing moisture to plant extensively, and to supply such of the cane fields as required fresh plants to replace those previously destroyed by drought. We have been informed, that preparations on a large scale are being made for the cultivation of cotton, which would have been extensively planted but for the want of seed. This difficulty will, however, be obviated very soon, as we understand some of our merchants have sent on to the United States for the necessary supply.

The recent unremunerating prices of the staple products seem to render the experiment of cotton cultivation peculiarly commendable, as the planting of that shrub can be carried out without diminishing the sugar or provision crops. We particularly recommend an extensive cultivation of the latter, as a means of cheapening breadstuffs, and placing those

necessaries of life within the reach of individuals whose resources are few and scant.—*Herald*, July 6.

GRENADA.—ARRIVAL OF THE BRITISH BRIG "ARAB," FROM RIO JANEIRO—RESCUE FROM BONDAGE OF TWO AFRICAN SLAVES.—The only local event of interest that has transpired during the week, has been the arrival, on Thursday night last, of the brig *Arab*, of Glasgow, Murdoch, master, in forty-two days, from Rio Janeiro, having on board two Africans, late slaves in Rio, who, the captain reports, concealed themselves on board, and thus effected their deliverance from the cruelties of Spanish slavery. No doubt these unfortunate creatures had heard that Britain had, long since, unlocked the shackles that kept her sable subjects in slavery and degradation, and, perhaps, had heard also that it was only for them to reach some British port to become freemen, and were thereby induced to conceal themselves on board a British vessel, and subsequently to seek protection under the British flag. Deluded people! But for the act of a kind and ever-interposing Providence, which caused the *Arab* to repair to a British port as a haven of relief, to be supplied with water, their condition of degradation would only have been transferred from one slave country to another, and the duration of this transfer might have been even temporary, for we question whether, on a recognition of the parties, and a demand for their restoration, the New Orleans slave owners would not have rejoiced to have made the restoration, and thus to have given their Spanish "co-partners" an opportunity to wreak their vengeance on the helpless objects of their cupidity, by a profuse application of what benevolent Carlyle would call the "beneficent whip." They are now, however, thanks to a gracious Providence, under the protection of British law, and, consequently, out of the reach of their Spanish taskmasters. The captain of the brig seemed particularly anxious to be allowed to take one of the men with him, and to have his name inserted on the ship's register as an articulated seaman, by way of security for his future protection; but he wisely declined to consent to such offer, preferring to remain where he is. Had he not thus decided, he would not have been allowed to enter into any such agreement, for being under the protection of the magistrates, their duty would have been to explain to him that New Orleans is a slave country, and that the regulations of the slave States of America subject persons of colour to the indignity of imprisonment on going to such States. It is only recently that the subject of the incarceration of a British seaman (a person of colour), in Charleston, was taken notice of in the House of Commons, particulars of which we publish in another column. The captain of the *Arab* must have been aware of the existence of the objectionable and offensive regulations here alluded to, and for this reason his conduct appeared to us extremely singular, in inviting a helpless and unsuspecting creature to go to a country, where insult, imprisonment, and, perhaps, even slavery awaited his arrival. The *Arab* is to leave this evening for New Orleans. It would have given more satisfaction to the public had a public investigation taken place, and the crew been examined to ascertain whether the statement of the captain is borne out in reference to the circumstances under which the Africans were found on board.—*Chronicle*, June 12.

ST. KITTS.—The Bill "To disfranchise three-fifths of the present voters of the island of Saint Christopher, and to restrict within safe and proper limits the political influence of the Coloured and Black Population of the Colony," has passed the Board of Council.

We were informed, two or three weeks ago, that the Honourable Board intended to propose to the lower House the introduction of a clause to suspend the operation of the Bill until Her Majesty's pleasure should be known, but that they were prepared to pass the Bill without it, should the lower House think fit to reject the proposition. It was hardly necessary, after such information had got abroad, to make the proposition on Thursday. It was made, however, and of course rejected. The Bill then passed the Council without a suspending clause.

We have already shown, in a previous article, the mode in which this Bill will interfere with the existing system of popular representation. Our readers, we suppose, can entertain no doubt upon the subject. If they do, we can assure them that our view of this part of the subject is fully borne out by the opinion of legal men. Let this Bill pass, and the political degradation of the coloured class is complete—their subjugation consummated. Their necks will be under yoke—and will remain so.

The number of persons qualified to vote in the whole colony will be reduced to less than two hundred, or something like  $\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. of the population. It is even at present ludicrously restricted, but in future our system of election, as modified by this Bill, will be a libel upon popular representation. We might, by allusion to the manner in which members for several parishes in the island are now elected, show the monstrous defects of even our present system, but as this subject may require to be dealt with separately, we shall postpone its consideration for the present.

We respectfully submit, in the name and on behalf of the coloured inhabitants of the colony, the details of this momentous question to the serious consideration of the Acting Governor General of the Leeward Islands. To our fellow-countrymen we again submit the propriety of an effort to remedy the evil of which we complain.—*Advertiser*, July 23.



## Miscellaneous.

**THE SLAVE-TRADE IN THE MOZAMBIQUE.**—Private letters from the coast of Brazil inform us of several successful landings of cargoes of thousands of slaves at Santos, San Sebastiano, and Isla Grande, on the Brazil coast, from the east coast of Africa, in spite of the vigilance of her Majesty's steam-sloop *Cormorant* and the screw-schooner *Rifleman*. The importation of slaves from the Mozambique was considered to have been suppressed; but it appears, since the reduction of the Cape of Good Hope squadron, which has left only a couple of cruisers, and sometimes only one, at the disposal of the Commander-in-Chief, to be employed in the Mozambique division, it is again revived—the stricter blockade on the west coast of Africa having driven the speculators to the eastward. The slave dealers have acquired impunity also from the small force employed on the coast of Brazil. In consequence of the reduction of the number of men-of-war on this station, only two vessels, and, for some weeks, only one cruiser, is stationed at or near Rio, running down to the River Plate. These vessels have been most effective of late, but the impediments thrown in their way by the Brazilians of all classes restrict their operations and defeat their designs. A Brazilian steamer, called the *Serpente*, in pay of the slave dealers, is continually on the track of the men-of-war, in order to give intelligence to the expected slavers of the whereabouts of the cruisers; and the barracoons and establishments on shore are so perfectly arranged at San Sebastiano and other places, that very frequently of late the slaver has landed her cargo within a few miles of the cruiser, in the utmost safety, the Brazilian men-of-war winking at the illegal practice. Notwithstanding the well-known and barefaced prosperity of the slave dealers, the Brazilian Government do not hesitate to complain of British naval officers exceeding their duty.—*United Service Gazette*.

**THE COAST OF AFRICA.**—By the latest accounts received, the slave-trade is described as being more brisk than ever in the Bights, where the cruisers have been recently very successful. There was not much doing, according to all accounts, on the south coast, and nothing at all on the north coast. The *Philomel* had captured a vessel with 240 slaves on board, and sent her to make the best of her way to St. Helena, but being unable to fetch the island, she put in at Ascension on the 21st of May, having, in her vain attempts to make St. Helena, lost 108 slaves by death. The vessel was sent to Sierra Leone for adjudication. *Bonetta*, 3, Lieut. Commander Forbes, sailed from Sierra Leone for Ascension, June 2, and left June 28, for Whydah, where she was to pick up the commander, who, with Mr. Beecroft, has been on a mission to the King of Dahomey. *Hecla*, 6, steam-sloop, Commander Beauchamp, had captured her eighth prize, with 250 slaves on board. The prize was spoken by the *Archer*, bound to Sierra Leone.

**CAPTURE OF SLAVERS.**—In the shipping intelligence (says the *Cape Shipping and Mercantile Gazette*, of the 24th May last) will be found a list of eleven slavers sent in to St. Helena by British cruisers within a period of only seventy days. Among them were four barks, four brigs, a schooner, a felucca, and a steamer. Only three of them had slaves on board, but these three (brigs) had no less than 1840 miserable beings stowed away under hatches. Whether these numerous captures are due to the increased vigilance of the cruisers, or to an increase in the number of vessels engaged in the slave-trade, can only be conjectured; but there is too much reason to believe that the latter is the true explanation. The recaptured slaves were to be sent immediately to the West Indies. The following is the list above alluded to:—

Name.	Class.	Number of Slaves.	By whom captured.
<i>Felix Lambrance</i> .....	schooner..	—	H.M.S. <i>Star</i> .
<i>Lucy Ann</i> .....	brig.....	535 slaves.	„ <i>Rattler</i> .
<i>Paulina</i> .....	bark.....	—	„ <i>Cormorant</i> .
<i>Rosita</i> .....	felucca...	—	„ <i>Hecla</i> .
<i>Encanto</i> .....	brig.....	838 slaves.	„ <i>Waterwitch</i> .
<i>Aventureiro</i> .....	brig.....	467 slaves.	„ <i>Eclipse</i> .
<i>Paquet de Santos</i> .....	steamer..	—	„ <i>Rifleman</i> .
<i>Julie</i> .....	bark....	—	„ —
<i>Navarre</i> .....	bark.....	—	„ <i>Firefly</i> .
<i>Serpente</i> .....	brig.....	—	„ <i>Phoenix</i> .
<i>Anne D. Johnson</i> .....	bark.....	—	„ <i>Pluto</i> .

**BOSTON (U.S.), May 9.**—The bark *Hope* arrived at New Bedford, having left St. Helena on the 14th of March. She reports the capture, on the coast of Africa, by the man-of-war brig *Water Witch*, of a slaver, sailing under the name of *Incarnation*, with the American flag flying. At the time of her capture she had on board 800 slaves.

**SLAVE DEPÔT AT ST. HELENA.**—The island is a great depôt for Africans captured from slavers. About 3,000 of these poor creatures are landed every year. Of these, nearly one-half suffer in health from the hardships they endure from their inhuman tyrants; and about one-fourth are heavily

afflicted. I accompanied his Excellency, a few days ago, on a visit to their village, or establishment, in Rupert's Valley. If anything were needed to fill the soul with burning indignation against that master-work of Satan, the slave-trade, it would be a visit to this institution. There were less than 600 poor souls in it at the time of my visit; of these, more than 300 were in hospital; some afflicted with dreadful ophthalmia; others with severe rheumatism; others with dysentery; the number of deaths in the week being twenty-one. I think I have seldom beheld a more deplorable spectacle. I was pained to find that no effort is made to instruct these poor things during the time they are in the island, and the more so, because the superintendent informed me that they show a great aptitude for instruction, and have a strong desire for it. The lack of employment, too, for their minds has a bad effect on their health and spirits, so that, when sickness overtakes them, they sink at once into a settled melancholy, and some commit suicide, partly from lowness of spirits, partly because, poor souls, they imagine that after death they will return to their much loved home and fatherland. \* \* \* \* \* A day or two after I had visited Rupert's Valley a slave ship was brought in, captured by one of our cruisers. She was a schooner, of about 100 tons, and had 560 slaves on board. I went to see them, that I might more fully realise their condition. The cargo was a particularly healthy one, the number of deaths being only one a day. Two were lying dead upon the deck, and one had, the day before, jumped overboard. Everything was done, by the officers and crew in charge, to keep the ship clean; but you can conceive, better than I can describe, what the condition of such a mass of human beings must be in so small a space. The deck was entirely covered with them. They had a worn look and wasted appearance, and were moved into the boats like bales of goods, apparently without any will of their own. I crept down between decks to where they are usually stowed away. It might be between three and four feet high, and the atmosphere was most oppressive, although not occupied by one-third of the usual number. I shall only say, I never beheld a more piteous sight—never looked upon a more affecting scene—never before felt so powerful a call to be a missionary. I did not quit that ship without having resolved, more firmly than ever, that I would never cease entreating of the Mother Church the needful supply of men and means that the reproach may be wiped off, which, alas! still attaches to us, of being almost the only body of Christians in this great diocese which is not engaged in the work of the conversion of the heathen.—*Extract from the Journal of the Bishop of Cape Town*.

**COTTON IN CEYLON.**—Badula, Ceylon, 8th July, 1850.—So little is known of the productions of this island at home, that I may as well begin by telling you that the natives have cultivated cotton from time immemorial, but the production has been barely sufficient to supply the native manufacturer. It is grown over the greater part of the island—principally the northern and eastern portions of it. As to cultivation, it gets none, being sown by the natives along with their grain crops, and receiving no care or attention: they simply content themselves with plucking the crops as they come to maturity. Samples of a superior quality from Bourbon seed have been raised at Jaffna and Batticalou, but the cultivation was abandoned, as it was found to interfere with that of the cocoa-nut tree. A parcel raised in Jaffna, sent home some years ago, sold for, I believe, 6d. per lb; and a sample I grew at Batticalou was valued at Liverpool at the same price. Mr. Fennie, one of the American cotton planters, who is in the service of the East India Company, with a view to the improvement of the production in Hindostan, and who, some time ago, visited this island, says that in every essential—in soil, temperature, and climate—this island is calculated to produce cotton equal in quality and cheaper in price than that of the United States. His words are, “I am of opinion, from what I saw of the climate and soil, that Ceylon will produce the article of cotton equally well—and, when the comparatively small amount of capital required is considered, I doubt not it may even produce the article cheaper than we can in America, where a large sum must be laid out at once for labour, and where the expense of food and clothing is much greater than the imported labour of Ceylon costs, besides the risk of losing the labourers by death after they are purchased.” I believe that more than one half the island is, by soil and climate, adapted for it; so that there is field enough, the island containing about 24,700 square miles, with a population of only 1,500,000. One great advantage of this island for carrying on cotton cultivation with English capital would be the facilities for obtaining both land and labour cheaply and easily. From what I have myself seen—and I believe it is generally admitted—both soil and climate of Ceylon are superior to that of India; whilst from the facility of its communication with China and the east coast of Africa, it possesses the advantage of obtaining cheap and abundant supplies of labour from those countries, as well as from India, from which they emigrate in great numbers, and can at all times be had to work for 15s. to 18s. per month.